

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1830.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1862.

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THREEPENCE
Stamped Edition, 4d.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—The PROFESSORSHIP OF CLASSICAL LITERATURE will be VACANT at Easter next, and the Council are now ready to receive applications from Gentlemen desirous of offering themselves as Candidates. For particulars, apply to
J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.
ALBEMARLE-STREET, LONDON, W.
November, 1862.
LECTURE ARRANGEMENTS.

Christmas Lectures, 1862.

Prof. FRANKLAND, F.R.S.—Six Lectures, 'On Air and Water.' (Adapted to a Juvenile Auditor)—Dec. 27, 30, 1862; and Jan. 1, 3, 5, 1863.

Before Easter, 1863.

Prof. MARSHALL, F.R.S.—Twelve Lectures, 'On Physiology.' On Tuesdays; commencing Jan. 20.

Prof. FRANKLAND, F.R.S.—Ten Lectures, 'On Chemistry.'

W. SAVORY, Esq. F.R.S.—Four Lectures, 'On Life and Death.'

On Saturdays; Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14.

Prof. MAX MÜLLER—Twelve Lectures.

On Saturdays; commencing Feb. 21.

The FRIDAY EVENING DISCOURSES BEFORE EASTER will be given by Prof. Tyndall, F.R.S., Cardinal Wiseman, Mr. James Galscher, F.R.S., Prof. Frankland, F.R.S., the Rev. George Williams, Mr. John Lubbock, F.R.S., Dr. W. A. Miller, Rev. R.S. Dr. J. H. G. Galscher, F.R.S., Mr. Balfour Stewart, F.R.S., and Mr. Wm. Crookes.

After Easter.

Prof. TYNDALL, F.R.S.—Seven Lectures.

On Tuesdays; commencing April 28.

D. T. ANSTED, Esq. F.R.S.—Lectures, 'On the Relations of Geology with Allied Sciences.'

On Thursdays; commencing April 16.

Prof. WILLIAM THOMSON, F.R.S.—Three Lectures, 'On Electric Telegraphy.'

On Saturdays; commencing May 30.

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H. BENCE JONES, Hon. Sec.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the LAST EXAMINATION for the DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE, under the present Regulations, will commence on WEDNESDAY, the 17th of December. On this occasion Fellows and Members of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of England, Edinburgh and Dublin, of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and Licentiates of the Apothecaries' Company, are eligible for Examination. All Candidates are required to communicate, by letter with Dr. Day, the Professor of Medicine, fourteen days before the period of Examination, and to present themselves to the Secretary for Registration, on or before Tuesday, the 16th of December.

By order of the Senatus Academicus,

JAMES M'BEAN, M.A., Secretary.

St. Andrews, 17th Nov. 1862.

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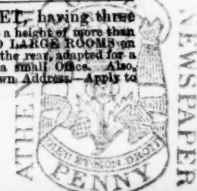
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MR. KIDD, in reply to oft-repeated inquiries, AGAIN ANNOUNCES, that he CEASED TO CONTRIBUTE to the "QUEEN" Newspaper on the 1st of NOVEMBER. Nothing from his pen has since appeared in that Periodical, and he will never contribute to it again.

Hammersmith, Nov. 21.

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London Bridge Railway Terminus.

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The Angel Guide—Song.....René Favarger.
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La Belle Italienne—Polka.....Léon Leoni.
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In consequence of time being required for the finishing of many important Commissions for this Gallery, and in answer to many inquiries, the PROPRIETORS beg to INFORM ARTISTS, that the LAST DAY for receiving PICTURES is now fixed for THURSDAY, 11th December next.

Every Work sent must be numbered, and accompanied by a description in writing of such Work, addressed to the Secretary, with a statement of its price, if it be for sale; the insertion of such description in the Catalogue to be subject to approbation. No unfinished Work can be admitted into the Exhibition, unless as a Sketch to be so described in the Catalogue. No Print or Drawing can be admitted with more than 2 inches for margin, not including the Frame.

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All Works must be delivered at the Gallery, free of any expense or charge, on the days appointed for their reception; and all such Works must be removed from the Premises within one week after the Close of the Exhibition.

No Work can be admitted which has previously been exhibited in London.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1862.

LITERATURE

Calendar of the Letters, Despatches and State Papers relating to the Negotiations between England and Spain, preserved in the Archives of Simancas and elsewhere. Vol. I. 1485-1509. By G. A. Bergenroth. (Longman & Co.)

Charles the Fifth, among his minor talents, had a quick sense of the value of other people's secrets. To him the pen was a weapon as sharp and ready as the sword, and the possession of an enemy's papers had often more value in his eye than a city taken or a battle gained.

In the Exhibition which has just been closed, at South Kensington, a picture by a Spanish artist, Don Antonio Gisbert, drew to itself a daily crowd. The canvas told a noble story in a noble manner. The scene was a Spanish market-place; the date, the morrow after the defeat at Villalar; the subject, the decapitation, by command of Conde Haro, of three chiefs of the great war of the Commons against Charles the Fifth and his Flemish mercenaries. These chiefs were Padilla, Bravo and Maldonado, soldiers of high place and gentlemen of the bluest blood in Spain. Don Juan Lopez de Padilla stands in the centre of the group, and a more manly figure does not grace even the long heroic roll of our own martyrs. Sydney was not more Roman in his end. The letter written by Padilla from his prison to his wife recalls that tender message sent by Raleigh to "My dear Bessy." A fellow-captive, only an hour or two before his death, exclaimed against one of their judges calling him a traitor; Padilla gently said, "Yesterday was the time to show the spirit of a gentleman; to-day we have nothing left us but to die like Christians." Bravo was the first to fall, and when Padilla proudly stepped upon the platform, the bleeding trunk of his friend was in his way. He merely said, "Lie there, thou true gentleman," and laid his patriot head upon the block. In another moment the axe had swung and his soul was in a better world.

For many years, the monks who wrote the histories of Spain reviled the victims of that day. Raleigh's sins were not so well remembered by the slaves of James the First, as the rising of the Commons by the Marianas and Sandovals. Every calumny has been heaped upon Padilla's name. Yet, in freer countries, he has never ceased to be an object of the deepest interest. French and English authors have put his actions and his objects in an honest light. It is an augury of good that even in Spain there is some re-action against such judgments as that of Haro. Don Antonio Gisbert has done an act of justice, pleasant to the hearts of free men, even though it has been long deferred. Such men can happily afford to wait.

Padilla was the unconscious cause of the foundation of the great Archives of Simancas. The Commons, as in many other risings, caught the fancy that the records of the Crown were a sort of royal title-deeds, the destruction of which would free them from the regal claim of rent and taxes. Town after town saw bonfires of the State papers, and only such as had been kept in convents and private houses escaped the flames. The Emperor shared in some degree this fancy of his Commons. Soon, therefore, after Padilla's death, and the dispersion of the armed bands, Charles ordered the remaining papers to be brought together, and by means of a Papal brief, enjoining every one who knew of the hiding-place of official writings to surrender

them, he brought a large collection of what had been spared into one place. To secure these treasures against fire and force on the part of any fresh Padillas and Maldonados, Charles, by a royal decree of February 19, 1543, assigned the Castle of Simancas, in the neighbourhood of his palace of Valladolid, as their permanent place of rest. Philip the Second, and his successors for many ages, added to the store; and though wars and revolutions have often swept the country, and the capital itself has been removed to Madrid, the great collection of Spanish State Papers remains at Simancas to this very day.

The worth of this collection of papers is very great. It contains, so to speak, the whole secret history of Spanish intrigue in every Court of Europe; copies of the most confidential letters of the kings and queens; the originals of all reports from their spies, and of all suggestions and reports from their ambassadors at the several Courts. Yet scarcely anything has yet been done to make these secrets known. The old kings of Arragon and Castile, who prized so highly the possession of their neighbour's papers that they thought the chief duty of an ambassador was to corrupt that neighbour's secretaries and clerks, took every pains to conceal their own. The writings were in cipher. They were locked in strong boxes. The rooms in which they were kept were strictly watched. The castle itself was held by royal troops. Even when the papers had become old, when the capital had been carried to a distance, and when liberal States had opened their archives to the public, the spirit of Charles and Philip still sentinelled the gates of Simancas. What was the truth of history to them? Why should they give away even the rags and dust of secrets which had cost their ancestors so many a pocketful of golden doubloons? To enlighten curious people as to what took place three centuries ago! What right have people to be curious? What is it to John Bull that Isabel the Catholic plundered the merchants of Seville under pretence of guarding the purity of their faith? Why should Jacques Bonhomme pry into the remonstrances of the Pope against the doings of the Spanish Inquisition? There is the rub! Our Spanish annals have been discreetly written by monks and Jesuits; nothing dangerous in them; not very much truth perhaps; sedative composition, something between a catalogue and an allocution as to form, and as to spirit in the highest degree orthodox and safe. Why take the matter out of good hands? The monk who stood by the monarch, himself but too often a monk in habit and in soul, regarded every attempt of a layman to teach history with as much aversion as he would an attempt to teach theology. The Jesuits had written the history of Spain. They had told the world enough for salvation. Why should any man seek to know more? Who could tell whether from those dusty papers some scandal against the Church or against the Crown might not arise? Better, they thought, let things alone. Mendoza and Mariana must suffice. Light a cigarette. Take a boat.

Such was the spirit in which the official mind of Spain considered any proposition to investigate the sources of history at Simancas. It is only in our own day—only the other day—that the rule of silence has been forced to yield. Private persons could do little. M. Guizot, we have heard, when he was Minister of France, was graciously allowed to make a few extracts on the visit of Prince Charles of England to Madrid. This was a concession of the monks to a powerful friend, who might

possibly become a foe. Lord Macaulay was refused. The Trustees of the British Museum, eager to obtain copies of such papers as concern our national history, felt their way in official quarters at Madrid; but with so little success that they forbore to press their suit. Lord Howden tried and failed. In spite of some appearance of foot-note evidence to the contrary, we believe that no English writer until two years ago had ever read one line of the despatches kept at Simancas.

Many readers in these columns will remember the appearance two or three years ago of certain letters from Simancas under the signature of B. The writer was Herr Bergenroth, a young German student of wonderful linguistic and archeological attainments, who through Austrian means had gained access to the archives, for the purpose of reading and transcribing the unknown secret papers throwing light on the history of England during the Tudor reigns. He had gone to Simancas for a reason of his own; but his letters caught the eye of Sir John Romilly, who instantly perceived the uses to which a man so well endowed might be put could his services be secured for this country. This was easy. Herr Bergenroth was studying English history in its original sources for a literary purpose in Germany; so that a proposal to copy and calendar the papers at Simancas for the Master of the Rolls was in harmony with his plans. His services were therefore secured.

The difficulties even then were grave. Fresh powers had to be obtained in Madrid, which were granted in the end, though not without doubts on the part of those who gave them. Then, the papers were in cipher, the keys of which were lost. No one at Simancas, or elsewhere, could read a line. When a key to the cipher had been constructed by infinite labour, it was found that the ciphers changed from day to day, and that new keys would have to be made or the task abandoned in despair. The town itself was dull, unhealthy, inhospitable. Simancas is a dying hamlet in Old Castile,—once a gay town, the Richmond of Valladolid, but now a deserted spot; the landscape round it parched and tawny, not a tree to gladden the aching eye. The plagues of Egypt swarm about it. Except for a few weeks in spring, the climate is simply murderous; in summer, fiery as the sands of the Sahara; in winter, icy as the plains of Moscow. There is no public accommodation, no private hospitality, in the place. A Spanish *venta* is no seductive home; but in Simancas there is not even a Spanish *venta*. The student, if he lodges at all, must lodge as he would in Tetuan or Fez. In some respects worse. In the cities of Morocco, a tourist can always find a well-to-do Jewess, with nimble fingers and cosy house, to take him in. At Simancas he must live with a peasant, in a wretched hovel, without books and society, commonly without a window, and often without food or fire.

Youth, however, laughs at trifles. Youth in itself finds food, warmth, health, society, everything. Herr Bergenroth was young. When the Castle was closed, he gossiped with Pedro and flirted with Lolo; when it was open, he laboured at his keys. Then came a crisis. When he had nearly completed his keys, a dark idea struck the people of the Archives. Here was this foreigner in their castle working like a real magician. True, he was an Austrian, or a man introduced by the Austrians; yet he was known to be copying documents for the use of heretics in London. They could not tell what he was writing, as they could not read a word of their own papers. He had found out

the ciphers, either by his own cleverness or by help of the Devil; he was going to take away his copies, and leave them in the dark. By Santiago, this could not be borne! So they took from him by force the whole of his copies. Remonstrances, menaces, supplications were all in vain. The *archivero*, a kindly sort of old gentleman, but a resolute Castilian, had but one answer: the rule of Simancas was that no paper should be copied until the officer had read it, no copy taken away until approved; he could not read the cipher, and therefore he must refuse to have it copied. Herr Bergenroth had to pack his trunk and ride to Madrid. Perhaps O'Donnel saw the affair in its ludicrous light, for O'Donnel is of Irish descent. The thing was arranged on condition that Herr Bergenroth should leave copies of all his keys and transcripts at Simancas. Some day an *archivero* may arrive who will be able to read them.

In the mean time, Herr Bergenroth has placed in the Record Office in Chancery Lane the original copies. There they are now open to historians. To facilitate access to these unsunned treasures, he has prepared the first Part of an excellent Calendar, the publication of which we are glad to announce. A second Part is nearly ready; and as this second Part will contain an index, we may conveniently postpone a detailed notice of the contents until that volume shall have appeared.

The Life of Joseph Locke, Civil Engineer, M.P.
By Joseph Devey. (Bentley.)

AMID the blaze of great names and the honours rendered to the owners of them, the name of Joseph Locke has hardly won attention from the world. He was a second-rate engineer, who found employment at a profitable time. Great works had to be done, and he had a share in doing them. Great fortunes were to be made, and he made one. A seat in Parliament, with the Presidency of the Institution of Civil Engineers, completed and crowned a career of success. Born in Yorkshire in 1805, the son of a man who had been banksman at the northern pit where the brakesman was George Stephenson, young Locke had a rough early time of it. There was a little schooling, then at thirteen a beginning of the battle of life under Mr. Stobart, a colliery-viewer, who on being about to descend into a pit with his pupil "never entered the corf without the pious ejaculation, 'Now Joe, God wo' us!'" An attempt to make Joe an errand-boy as well as a colliery-viewer offended the lad's dignity, and he abandoned this, his first service, for the office of a land-surveyor, whose wife set him to rock the cradle, from which employment the boy of fifteen fled more disgusted than before. To save him from idleness, his father sent him to "lead coals"; but this was the heaviest degradation of all, and when he was unable to find threepence to buy a substitute, the future member for Honiton and subduer of Shap Fell lay down at the bottom of the cart to conceal his tears and his disgrace. He was at home, moody and ambitious, when Stephenson, the old brakesman, called on Locke, the old banksman. The world had gone well with both valiant workers, but better with Stephenson than with his erst fellow-workman. They looked at the intelligent young fellow who was eager to be up and doing with the great spirits of the world,—and Stephenson's simple words, "Send him to me!" gave the golden opportunity which led Joe, now nineteen, to honour. Under his new patron, Locke rapidly grew in usefulness. From pupil-

age he speedily passed to "assistant," when his energy had to supply all that was otherwise wanting by the absence of his principal. He took charge of the survey of lines, was marvellously acute in detecting the errors of others, and laudably cautious to make none of his own. The directors of the Liverpool and Manchester line esteemed him for his practical qualities, and on the then called Grand Junction "he was regarded by everybody as George Stephenson's special representative." Ultimately, on Stephenson's withdrawal in 1835, he was appointed engineer-in-chief,—an appointment that was followed by many important improvements, which were introduced by him as soon as he had perfect independence of action.

It is quite as a little episode in his active life that his marriage is mentioned. It was a happy yet a childless one, and was commenced on the handsome appliance of eight hundred a year, with a supplementary couple for incidental expenses. The lady was a daughter of Mr. McCreery, one of the few learned and literary printers of his time, and who himself portrayed his daughter as being

With gentle soul and heart sincere,
And only on herself severe.

It is illustrative of Mr. Locke's professional character that whenever a line was in a difficulty, recourse was had to him for rescue. Things were at their worst with the London and Southampton, but as soon as he was appointed to take matters in hand the shares rose in value. He cared nothing for Titanic works, unless they would carry a dividend to the proprietors. Use and not show was his object; and grand and costly operations which might bring renown to the operator but ruin to the proprietors were never entered upon. It did not necessarily follow that his estimates were lower than those of his contemporaries. That of Mr. Vignoles for the Sheffield and Manchester was only half that of Mr. Locke: Mr. Locke's was the one accepted. He pledged himself to form a line of equal distance between Leeds and Manchester at half the cost, and kept his word.

Scotland invited to her aid the engineer who kept within his estimates. The Caledonian owed everything to Locke; and, this office rendered, France implored his aid; and forthwith Locke and Mr. Brassey invaded Normandy with workmen who excited the wonder of the Normans, who, however, were not slow to learn how labour was to be undergone, and to profit by the instruction. "Only look how those English work!" was the exclamation of the spectators who saw the stalwart navvies. When they saw how and on what those British giants fed, they wondered less; and cabbage-soup went out of fashion, and the Norman thews and sinews took strength by due application of means derived from the English commissariat. Louis-Philippe made Locke a chevalier; and when, with English capital for the most part, Mr. Locke finished the Nantes and Cherbourg Railway, Louis Napoleon made him an officer of the Legion of Honour.

Then came work on the South-Western, and the home he created for himself at Honiton, and his return for it to Parliament.

His closing years were years of usefulness, of beneficence as well as of benevolence—of enjoyment, thankfulness and repose. He was ready to answer any call made on his services, and might have looked forward for many years of such a happy and honourable course of life; but sudden illness attacked him, when in Scotland, and at the age of fifty-five one of the most useful and undemonstrative men of his day ceased to exist. A Locke Scholarship and

a Locke Park in the North are remembrances bequeathed by himself.

The qualities required in a writer who undertakes to offer materials for a history of mechanical science, are habits of accurate reasoning and a precise knowledge of the services of different inventors. In these respects, we are sorry to say, Mr. Devey is deficient. His statements are loose, and in some instances contradictory. For instance, he says, at page 75, "It was conjectured that Trevithick's engine had failed to go as fast as it might, from the want of the wheels' adhesion to the rail. To remedy this supposed defect, Blenkinsop, on a colliery railway near Leeds, worked Trevithick's engine on a cogged wheel and rail, but without producing any improvement in its speed." This sentence causes the reader to infer that the cogged wheel formed no part of Trevithick's invention. Yet, in page 76, in slighting Hedley's invention of the adhesive principle, which he attributes to Mr. Blackett (or, as Mr. Devey spells the name, Blackett), who was only the engineer's employer, he says—"This device simply exploded a prejudice without establishing anything new; for though Trevithick's experiment on the Welsh railroad had been tried with the cogged wheel, the inventor had long been of opinion the weight of the engine would produce sufficient adhesion to the rail to enable it to draw after it the requisite number of carriages in all weathers. Notwithstanding, Mr. Blackett chronicled the result of his experiment as a 'great find,' and thought himself entitled to be registered as the principal creator of the working locomotive. But this honour was reserved for another." This statement appears to be loose in every joint. Mr. Devey here attributes the device of the smooth rail and smooth wheel to Trevithick. We had thought it a fixed conclusion in the history of science that this device was invented by Hedley. Mr. Devey asserts that Trevithick had long been of opinion that a smooth wheel would work upon a smooth rail. He does not, however, tell us when Trevithick first conceived that idea, nor when he expressed it by speech or act. We fancy the assertion made is the result of misapprehension. Mr. Devey is not consistent even with himself on this important point; for in a subsequent page he assigns the device of the smooth wheel on the smooth rail to another engineer. The statement that Hedley's experiment established nothing new, is answered by the fact that forthwith constructors built their locomotives with smooth wheels. This one great obstacle to its success having been overcome, the locomotive became an engine of practical utility, instead of being a mechanical curiosity. Far from regarding the device as an unimportant trifle, all competent writers on the locomotive have assigned it the highest value. When the public were misled into supposing that George Stephenson built the first locomotive which worked with smooth wheels on smooth rails, the Father of the Railway System was for a day regarded on that account as the "inventor of the locomotive on the present principle." Mr. Devey is altogether mistaken in believing that Blackett ever claimed the merit of this invention. Blackett knew very well, and always admitted, that the real inventor was his colliery-viewer, Hedley. This is one of the common errors of popular books. Mr. Devey should refer to Mr. Oswald Hedley's 'Who invented the Locomotive?' There he would find Blackett's letter on the subject. Blackett was the proprietor, but he never claimed to be the inventor. That is a mere hallucination of popular biographers who copy each other.

Hedley knew the importance of his discovery; but he made no unreasonable claims in its behalf, and was well satisfied with the place assigned to it by such judges as Mr. Nicholas Wood and Mr. Dunn. Perhaps the most comical part of this comedy of error appears in the sequel. Having first depreciated the value of the device of the smooth wheel on a smooth rail; having next assigned it, without grounds, to Trevithick; and then, having asserted that it was claimed by a man who certainly never made any such claim for himself, the writer proceeds in the coolest way, as if no one had disputed the facts, and in perfect forgetfulness of his own part in the affair, to assign it to George Stephenson. This wonderful paragraph will be found on page 101.

The minor errors in this book are numerous; but the reader will be satisfied with a few.

At page 78, Mr. Devey says that the "Killingworth engine-wright had the great merit of introducing the discovery of steam locomotion as a *permanent economic agent* in the industrial machinery of the country." Every one now knows that this merit is due to Mr. Blackett's view, the principle of whose locomotive George Stephenson copied. The economy of the Wylam engine is shown by the fact that it altogether superseded animal power on that line. Its durability may be judged of by the fact, that it continued to work on the Wylam road until the other day, when it was removed to the Patent Museum at South Kensington.

At page 80-81, Mr. Devey says that the influence of the pamphlet of Messrs. Walker & Rastrick with the Directors of the Liverpool and Manchester line was met by the experiments of Robert Stephenson and Joseph Locke with such success, that the directors offered the famous 500*l.* prize. This is an error. The principal experiments were not made till after the decision of the directors to offer the prize, and the report embodying their results was published after the Rainhill contest, in consequence of events about which Mr. Devey is ignorant.

At page 106, Mr. Devey claims praise for Locke as the engineer who first ascertained that railroads could be made to pay. "One problem was yet unsolved. That problem was, Could railways pay?" Surely this problem was solved on the Stockton and Darlington, and Liverpool and Manchester lines. The claim is simply ridiculous.

Of many similar errors, Mr. Devey's mistake about the first Lord Ravensworth may be noticed in passing. George Stephenson is represented as obtaining Lord Ravensworth's permission to build his first locomotive,—the fact being that the patron was, at the time in question, Sir Thomas Liddell, his peerage being created years after the construction of the engine.

We will not part from Mr. Devey without allowing him to show his power of statement and narration. As an instance of the art of surveying in the early engineering days, the following is remarkable:—

"After the resignation by Joseph Locke of his post on the Liverpool and Manchester line, another assistant was appointed by George Stephenson to succeed him. In this position, Locke's successor had to construct the tunnel which connects Edgehill with the station in Lime Street. After it had been laid out, it was asserted at the Board of Directors that serious errors existed, both in the levels and in the direction of the various portions on each side of the shaft. Locke had already acquired some fame, and no little confidence in himself and from others, in his construction of the tunnel to Wapping. It was therefore suggested by some of the directors that he should be asked to make an examination of the impugned plans, and

report thereon to the Board. The suggestion was unanimously acceded to. In obedience to their request, he made an investigation. The predictions made at the Board were verified: serious errors did exist. So serious, indeed, were they, that, had they not been discovered in time, the several portions of the tunnel would never have formed a straight line; and in one instance, two parts of the tunnel, instead of meeting, would have given each other the go-by altogether. A report was written; but before it was sent in, it was frankly submitted to the assistant engineer who had succeeded Locke, with full authority to make any alteration in it he chose, consistently with the facts themselves. He expressed himself perfectly satisfied with the way in which the facts were stated. The report was sent in, and was adopted by the Board. The new lines and levels of direction were to be those laid down by Locke, whose services they had objected to forego. His successor, however, continued the superintendence of the work; but the satisfactory completion of the tunnel proved the correctness of, and necessity for, the report. Not only to the skilled engineers, but even to the unscientific public of to-day, it may appear astounding that the sections of a tunnel should be so erroneously planned as that one section should absolutely cut past the other; but it should be remembered that railway surveying required the application of a science but little known to many, and absolutely unknown to some whose abilities in a cognate walk had allied them with the early construction of railways."

A peculiar Spanish antagonism to railways is thus described:—

"It was evident that these railways, if allowed to proceed unmolested, would interfere with the brigand's calling. If men travelled at forty miles an hour and in troops of a hundred, the freebooter could not waylay his victim as of yore in a quiet corner of the highway and despoil him of his money. In this desperate state of affairs another bold stroke was made to render even railroads remunerative to the profession. It appears that one Alexander Floricourt was attached to the Barcelona Railway Company as one of its train guards. It was one of the functions of this officer to collect the weekly receipts at the several stations and deposit the money at the Company's headquarters in Barcelona. The financial worth of the man became known to the freebooters, and they determined to seize him. For this purpose Borjes, at the head of about 100 men, one spring evening, at six o'clock, entered a *café* in Mataro, and carried off poor Floricourt in open daylight, out of a town of 25,000 inhabitants. The officer was safely lodged in the brigand's retreat in the mountain, and the modest sum of one thousand dollars demanded as the price of his ransom. Floricourt does not appear to have been admitted to all the rollicking festivities of his mountain home, as he wrote pressingly to Mr. William Locke for the ransom-money. But the Company thought, if this demand was complied with, that the abduction of its officers would be frequently had recourse to, as one of the best weapons for replenishing an exhausted treasury. Floricourt, therefore, was obliged to get on as well as he could with his new acquaintances. His captivity, however, was only short; for at that time (April, 1848) Catalonia was covered with the Queen's troops, hunting both Carlists and brigands out of the province; Borjes and his men were in consequence reduced to great extremities, and whilst they were dodging about from one hiding-place to another, Floricourt contrived to effect his escape, and returned home after about sixteen days' absence."

But there were other freebooters, besides those over the Pyrenees or beyond the Alps. The following passage refers to the auditing of accounts, and the course taken thereon by Lord Montague:—

"Early in the session of 1849, he moved the Lords for the appointment of a select committee to examine into railway auditorship. Nearly every person of any authority upon the subject was examined before the members of that committee. All bore testimony to the necessity of legislation on the subject. Each pronounced the private system

of auditorship under the management of the council of direction to be the merest moonshine. A mass of additional evidence was produced, showing an utter want of social loyalty on the part of the directors, in dealing either with their own shareholders or with the public. The North Wales Company kept its accounts in cipher; no one not among the initiated could get at them. A northern company invariably concealed every report of its accounts calculated to depreciate the value of its shares. The large balance of one company stated to lie in the hands of their bankers was found to consist in the overdue and protested bills of their own secretary. One-half of the paid-up capital of another was found to consist of securities equally valuable. The committee of the Lords passed a series of stringent resolutions, which Lord Montague embodied in a new Bill. That Bill passed through the Lords rapidly in July. During the same month it obtained a first reading in the Commons, met with the full sanction of Government, and was in consequence never afterwards heard of."

On the death of this respectable and successful engineer, his friends desired to place a statue of him in the garden of St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, near the spot where stands the noble statue of Canning. The Government refused permission, and thereby incurred the wrath of Mr. Devey. But how could Lord Palmerston accede? Mr. Locke was one of thousands. He had done no public service. He was a steady man of business, average in ability, and not particularly striking in his success. If he had claims to a monument in a public place, then every citizen of London who dies worth half-a-million has a claim. In rejecting the demand of indiscreet friends, Lord Palmerston seems to have exercised a very wise discretion.

Nippon and Pe-che-li; or, Two Years in Japan and Northern China. By Edward Barrington De Fonblanque. (Saunders, Otley & Co.)

WITH a very strange admission, Mr. De Fonblanque opens a very dogmatic book. He was nearly a year in Japan. After three months, he fancied himself an authority. Six months rendered him dubious. Twelve months left him totally ignorant. "By the time I left the country," he says, "I felt that I knew nothing whatever about it." Then, why write? Why, again, write with so flippant and fierce a pen? Mr. De Fonblanque sets out by affirming, "The fact is, that a lengthened residence in the East warps the mental and moral, as it undermines the physical constitution of Europeans." This is an easy sort of generalization, whereof there is immeasurably too much in the volume. Of Japan we have it recorded, under Mr. De Fonblanque's hand and seal, that it is a region in which "all men are liars." Then, in the Chinese chapter, "Paradoxical as it may appear, it is the fact, that the longer a man lives in China, the less capable he becomes to give information about it." After this, we are not surprised to find that Capt. Sherard Osborne's narrative is sneered at as a "romance," and that Mr. De Fonblanque, while disclaiming all knowledge of Japan, is most positive in his language about it. His mission in the Islands was to buy horses for the British expedition in China; and he reached them early in January, pausing, however, before hailing the white peak of Fusi-jama, to commemorate how a Yankee said, when asked what he thought of a little volcanic islet, just then fuming in the sea: "Wall, I don't know how it's called, but I guess it smells more like hell than anything ever smelt!" Then commence Mr. De Fonblanque's remarks, addressed to the curious reader, upon Imperial Japan. The port officials looked like "old apple-women at their stalls on a cold day"; the tea-house girls, whom

Capt. Sherard Osborne admired, are coarse, painted, bedizened, clumsy and vociferous; in Sinagawa, "it would be certain death for an Englishman" to enter a gambling-house,—and so forth. These gentle reminiscences introduce us to Mr. De Fonblanque's diary, descriptive of his interview with a great man, anent the purchase of horses. He was carried to court in a chair, "and was buttoned up to the chin in full uniform, with a plumed cocked-hat on my head, and spurs on my heels," through "uninterrupted lines of men, women and children." The sedan-bearers set him down, in deference to the scrupulous dignity of the English minister, at the very door of the reception hall. In the presence of a kneeling mob, Mr. Alcock and Mr. De Fonblanque opened their business. They promised him, after infinite ambiguities, three thousand horses; the négociation being relieved by a luncheon of soup, boiled fish, sweetmeats and "joy-in-the-heart-of-man-inspiring" Saki,—if, indeed, Saki deserves the Homeric epithet.

Mr. De Fonblanque testifies that the naughty haunts of Japanese gentlemen have not been too highly coloured by English travellers; that the bath-houses, street-tubs and undressed groups are actually as they have been described.

It was discovered by Mr. De Fonblanque that he had not bidden adieu to circumlocution when he left England; but if a system of roundabout reference delayed the purchase of horses, it gave the military dealer an opportunity of exploring and inspecting in the neighbourhood of Kanagawa and elsewhere, wondering at the people, sketching their manners, copying their play-bills—which may safely be recommended to managers in search of "sensation" effects—and gleanings of information really more substantial than is promised by Mr. De Fonblanque in his preliminary pages. Yet the horse business continually oppressed him:—

"One of the many difficulties with which I had to contend, in the management of my stables, was getting the horses exercised. None but a two-sworded man is allowed to ride in Japan, and my bettors, or grooms, disapproved of leading horses for a walk, and when compelled to do so, were no sooner out of my sight than they tied their beasts up at a tea-house door, and passed their afternoons in the quiet and undisturbed enjoyment of their *dolce far niente*."

At Osakusa he saw a wax-work collection, and praises it even to the disparagement of Baker Street:—

"So perfect, indeed, were some of these figures, that it actually required the sense of touch to convince us that we were not regarding flesh and blood. I had on several occasions seen the fair sex in Japan going through the different stages of their ablutions and dressings outside their street-doors; but I was now for the first time initiated into the real mysteries of their toilettes, and so wonderfully natural were these representations, that my innate modesty was most severely outraged. I felt as if I had strayed into forbidden ground, and as guilty as Peeping Tom of Coventry. Japanese ladies of rank evidently resort to extraordinary devices for maintaining all their charms in the highest state of preservation, and their maids certainly enjoy no sinecures."

In May, the horses were shipped,—the first four-footed emigration that had taken place in Japan. The natives were amazed and delighted by the process; but the poor animals suffered in a hurricane, and one transport put back into harbour. Incidentally, Mr. De Fonblanque refers to a singular national characteristic:—

"I may here mention that I never could prevail upon a Japanese to destroy a horse for the purpose of putting it out of its misery. I believe they would as soon cut a man's throat in cold blood. Even in cases of locked jaw they would let the poor beast linger in its agony, but, when all was over, they invariably laid a mat or rug decently over the car-

case. Their respect for the dead seems to extend to the brute creation."

The picture of Japan drawn by Mr. De Fonblanque is exaggerated and coarsely coloured. It contains an abundance of such smartness as this:—

"Next to the obscene, there is nothing that the Japanese so much love to represent as the beautiful."

In China, his impressions were scarcely so vivid. He gathered some interesting gossip relating to the late and present Emperors; but the chapters on Japan are those which justified Mr. De Fonblanque in "making a book" out of his Eastern reminiscences.

Reminiscences of a Military Life—[Aus meinem Soldaten-Leben, von Karl von Suckow]. (Stuttgart.)

SOLDIER stories are becoming the fashion over the Continent. The few survivors of the great wars of the beginning of the century are all racking their memories and vieing with each other in anecdote. After dinner, one story brings up another; and those who sat silent at first are reminded of some practical joke they played, or some adventure they have heard related. So is it with the succession of military recollections. Regiments of veterans are shouldering their crutches and showing how fields were won. It is but a short time since we had the story of a German Hussar; and now we have that of an officer who fought against him at Borodino, and made the campaign against Russia as an ally of Napoleon. Once more we follow the retreat from Moscow, and witness all its terrors; once more we marvel at the endurance which could have sustained the hardships of the march, the cold, and the famine.

Our author, who is now a Colonel in the corps of Invalids in the army of Wurtemberg, is from Mecklenburg by birth, and began his military life in the Prussian service. At a very early age he was admitted into the Prussian service as supernumerary *Junker*, after meeting with many repulses on account of his youth. The first general to whom he presented himself told him to go home again and grow taller; and our author avenges this slight by telling an anecdote of the general's habitual rudeness. In Berlin, soldiers were not allowed to pass the gates without depositing their permission in the guard-house, and if they did not return within a certain time, they were treated as deserters. To avoid this, they would constantly go out in plain clothes; in which disguise it was difficult for the officer on duty to detect their military character. But General von Götz knew a trick worth two of that: "Whenever I saw a man in plain clothes passing the gate, I shouted out to him, 'What do you mean by not reporting yourself to me, you lubber?' If the man was a civilian, he would stop and say, 'I beg your pardon, Herr Lieutenant, I am not a lubber.' But if he was a soldier in plain clothes, he would try to pass without saying a word, and then I arrested him." However, our author found a more complaisant general, and proceeded to serve as supernumerary, having to lodge with a non-commissioned officer, and getting no pay. He gives an account of his first night on guard at one of the gates, when the lieutenant on duty passed the night on an easy chair, and the *Junker* on a board. The *Junker*, of course, passed a sleepless night listening to the lieutenant's snoring; but when, before lying down, he ventured on a polite wish that the lieutenant might sleep well, he was met with a reprimand, "On guard one does not sleep."

War was raging over all the Continent, and

yet Prussia remained neutral; at last she had to prepare for emergencies, and mobilized her army. The luxurious equipment of the Prussian officers contrasts strangely with the inadequate dresses of the men, and the entire want of practical arrangements. Each infantry officer had two horses supplied him by the Government, a saddle-horse and a baggage-horse. On the latter were packed a bed of very complete nature, a trunk, a tent, a camp-stool and a camp-table, all covered with a huge sheet of linen, as a protection against the rain. On the other hand, the men had only a small hat, which scarcely covered the head and had to be tied on, a small stock, and trousers and leggings of the most rotten materials, which scarcely served for any protection against the cold. The results were seen after a few marches in numerous additions to the hospitals, and more numerous desertions. The night before Jena was passed without any bread, and yet in the flight from Jena a waggon-load of bread was thrown into the deep ruts to enable the heavy baggage-train to pass over. Does not this seem a chapter from the Crimean or the Italian campaign? In this state the Prussian army, with pampered officers, of whom it was said that one half were old men and the other half children and neglected men, entered on the battle of Jena.

A thick fog covered the field on the morning of the 14th of October, and the Prussians, half-starved and half-frozen, took up their position. How to fight when you could not see beyond your nose was a puzzle, and the thunder of the guns was the only indication of the neighbourhood of the enemy. The corps in which our author served was stationed in the rear, and though eager to strike a blow in his first battle, he could hardly hope that his comrades would be driven far enough back for his division to come into action. At last the moment for advance came, but with an order that, as the youngest lieutenant, our author must retire in charge of the baggage. All his remonstrances were vain, and he was sent off from the battlefield without once coming in sight of the enemy, and soon after the battle was won, and the remains of scattered regiments came pouring from the field. The retreat became a flight: Magdeburg was named as rendezvous, and Lieutenant Suckow had to hasten his train of heavy waggons over impassable roads towards the place of refuge. But he was not left long in Magdeburg, and, to his great joy, on the march from thence towards Berlin, he fell in with Blücher's corps, and was enabled to join it. In company with the idol of the Prussian army, he directed his course towards Lubeck, passing through his native duchy, on all the roads of which was a post inscribed, "Pays neutre du Duc de Mecklenbourg." He paid a short visit to his house, and tells us of the astonishment of a friend who saw from his window a Prussian hussar cleaning his horse in the evening, and a French chasseur cleaning his horse at the same place the next morning. We pass over his capture at Lubeck, and his release, to come to his entry into the Wurtemberg army.

After a journey of eight days from Wismar to Stuttgart, Von Suckow was granted a post in the Guards of the King of Wurtemberg, and an audience of His Majesty. From that time he led a pleasant life, till the Russian campaign disturbed his ease. The Guards followed the King wherever he went; spent the winter in Stuttgart, and the summer at Ludwigsburg, a miniature Potsdam—nothing to be seen but heaven and soldiers. As a flyleaf of peace stuck in between his battles, take this picture of the composer Weber:—

Karl Maria von Weber lived in Stuttgart, in the years 1808 and 1809, as Secretary to the King's

brother. Weber was a pleasant, unassuming man, a great friend of soldiers; he sought the society of young officers, and was considered agreeable company by them. We often stood round him while he called forth the most charming melodies from the pianoforte; and several of these which afterwards charmed the musical world in his 'Freischütz' and 'Oberon,' may possibly have been conceived in those moments. Weber seems to have been born a piano-player, technically, without counting his genius. Never saw a longer hand than his, and he often showed us jestingly that he could almost span two octaves with those endless fingers of his.

While Suckow was in the Guards, Napoleon paid two visits to the King of Wurtemberg. He came in "that heavy, dark-coloured travelling carriage which has become classic, and which is said to have been made entirely of iron." Suckow was on guard that day, and saw him well. He describes the instant hurry and bustle of everything,—how Napoleon sent off courier after courier till all his own messengers were exhausted, and he had to borrow officers from the King. One was ordered to go to a town called "Tellenk,"—into which Napoleon, with the usual French vagueness about proper names, had metamorphosed "Dillingen." On his second visit to the King, Napoleon was present at the performance of an opera composed in his honour, and went to sleep, with all his generals. But our author remarks—and the fact is worthy of remark—that almost fifty years later, in that same place in which he saw the first Napoleon, he saw Napoleon the Third on his visit to Stuttgart in 1857. To please the Anglomania of the ruler of Europe, an *auto-da-fé* of all English goods was held in Stuttgart; but, as the shopkeepers had previously been warned of it, nothing but old and broken things were to be found.

Now, however, a more arduous service than receiving the Emperor and lending him couriers—than having operas performed in dishonour, and broken plates offered to his manes,—was asked of the King of Wurtemberg. The Russian campaign was beginning, and a contingent had to be sent by the German allies of Napoleon. The Wurtembergers do not seem to have accepted the service willingly, or to have looked forward to it with longing eyes. One young officer, indeed, boasted that he would make the Russian campaign as easily as he could eat a piece of bread-and-butter; but he was sorry to be reminded of his boast at a time when not even bread was to be had. Nor were the German troops treated by the French with much consideration. Our author heard a French general say to a German, "The Emperor means to get all he can out of the German troops, because he knows that he will not have them long at his disposal." Want of food began before the Russian frontiers were crossed, and a two-pound loaf of bread was considered cheap at three shillings. The severe marches began to tell on the men, and suicides took place daily. Meanwhile the Russians were retreating as the Grand Army advanced; there was small thought of fighting, and even rumours of a peace. But Smolensk came, and Borodino, and showed no signs of yielding on the part of the Russians. Our author, whose memory serves him wonderfully well for small details, tells us of a Swabian soldier's remark during the pattering of great and small guns in the first engagement—"That sounds just like unloading stones from a waggon." At Borodino, our author, knowing French, and having a small Russian horse, acted for a time as orderly to Marshal Ney; but his horse was knocked up before his services were required. One thing he gained by his brief employment—he shared the Marshal's breakfast; and as it was

several days since he had eaten anything but horse-flesh, the meal was doubly acceptable. He then had to find his way back to his regiment through the confusion and smoke of the battle, arriving in time to occupy a redoubt of which the Wurtembergers had gained possession, and into which Murat had thrown himself. The gallantry of the Wurtemberg division was generally praised by the French, and their presence saved Murat from being made prisoner. Our author relates how a Russian regiment was allowed to come close to their redoubt, being mistaken for a Saxon regiment. Fortunately, however, for them, the Russian commander shouted to his men, in German, "Cut the German dogs to pieces!"—whereupon, made aware of their mistake, they responded with an instant volley.

Leaving 20,000 corpses on the field of Borodino, and little thinking that they would pass that field again in two months and find all those corpses rotting there still, the army proceeded to Moscow. Our author remarks on the luxuries he enjoyed there—tea, coffee, wines, &c.,—adding that the only things not to be had were the most essential—bread and meat. He had, fortunately, got a supply of money from a sutler on a bill of exchange, which bill was not presented to him till thirty years after. But with the retreat before us we cannot loiter in the comparative ease and rest afforded by Moscow.

Beginning with Napoleon's boastful proclamation,—"If we find the Russians on our way, we shall beat them; if they keep away, so much the better for them!" and the comment of one of the survivors that, unfortunately, the Russians found *them*, and that if they had not met it would have been better for *them*,—we pass along the dreary story, with its constant alarms of Cossacks, its want of food, its cold and misery, its hopelessness and its despair. Our author attributes his return to a dressing-gown of velvet and fur that he got on the way to Moscow, and steadily refused to part with it. Money was of no use to him then, he says; this was a question of life or death. Later, when he had got other clothes, he was glad enough to leave it behind, for it was almost alive with vermin, and at night, round the bivouac fires, when the warmth penetrated it, it was almost unbearable. The Cossacks hung so on the rear, and harassed them so that a new verb was invented by the French, "on nous a cosaqués." Besides the regular Cossacks, there were armed peasants hovering about who were called *tame Cossacks*. For food, the soldiers were glad to get hold of a dog or a cat; at one town they were willing to pay six silver roubles for six large *Letkuchen* (a kind of gingerbread) and a glass of *confitures*. A story is told of a soldier who, seeing a general on the ground in the last agonies, began to pull off his boots. The general cried out, "*Laissez-moi donc, je ne suis pas encore mort*"; to which the soldier replied naively, "*Mon général, j'attendrai*." Another time, when a general and his aide-de-camp ordered a group of soldiers to leave a bivouac fire, the answer was, "*Mon officier, maintenant il n'y a plus de généraux; il n'y a que des malheureux: nous resterons*!"

The Beresina was now near, and with feet half frozen and half burnt our author waited on the skirts of the rush of fugitives to find a favourable moment for crossing. We leave him to relate the passage:—

Thus I was pushed, jostled, and even sometimes carried onward, for it is no exaggeration to say that I was often so shut in the press that I did not touch the ground. The ground was covered with men and horses, dead and alive, in such numbers as greatly to impede one's progress, for

I stumbled over the corpses, and often I should have fallen if there had been room to fall. It was yet more painful, and more dangerous, when one was thrust by the crowd upon bodies that were still living whose movements to escape made one's step yet more uncertain. I remember still vividly that, among others, I trod on a yet living woman. I felt the motion of her body under my foot; I heard the cry of anguish, "*Oh, ayez pitié de moi*," which she uttered, and yet I could not move my weight till after a pause, when I was pushed forward again. Often have I thought with horror that perhaps by this pressure of my foot I had killed a fellow-mortal,—and the conviction was forced on me more strongly by remembering that before I had moved my feet the movement would sometimes cease, and the cry of anguish die away. The nearer we came to the bridge, the greater was the press from behind, for the rear was naturally anxious to escape the enemy's fire,—while in front French gendarmes were posted on the bridge with drawn swords, which they used freely on the fugitives to keep them from overcrowding the bridge. This was made of such wretched materials that it was expected to break down every moment. I must confess that at this moment I gave up all hope of being saved, in spite of my cheerfulness having never once abandoned me during the whole campaign and in the most wretched circumstances. A few steps further and I trod on a living horse, lying on its side; it made a violent effort to free itself of me, a push from behind came at the same moment, and I should have fallen without the chance of getting up again if I had not seized hold of the blue mantle of an enormous French cuirassier. The old saying, "Where want is the greatest then help is the nearest," was confirmed, and I owed my safety to this man and his mantle, of which I kept firm hold. He was armed with a good cudgel, which he laid about him mercilessly, and thus I found him a very useful pilot. But after a time he noticed my presence, and turned the attention of his cudgel to me. It was all in vain—he could not dislodge me; and when blows failed, he fired off a volley of curses and resorted to entreaties. In the most seducing tones, so far as he could moderate his voice, he said to me, "*Monsieur, je vous conjure, lâchez-moi donc; car sans cela nous serons perdus tous les deux*!" But I held on in spite of all: if I was to be killed, it would at all events be a satisfaction to have so distinguished a companion. Thus we came nearer to our goal; but the crush increased so that I found myself being pushed every minute nearer the river. I now saw that some of my comrades had adopted a plan of escape which at first sight seemed perilous as well as disagreeable, but which was nevertheless the best chance of safety. The banks here were very low, and the stream only a couple of feet deep. It was quite possible, by wading a little, to gain the bridge further on; so I let go of my cuirassier, and plunged up to the knees in the Beresina. The bridge was only a foot or two above the level of the stream, and wading a little I soon managed to reach it. To my astonishment I found it empty in comparison to the way that led to it, so effectually had the gendarmes kept off all pressure. And thus I found myself safely across the Beresina,—a stream scarcely as broad as the Neckar at Cannstatt, and yet the source of such calamity for three whole days—the tomb of so many victims in the passage.

The present instalment of Von Suckow's *Recollections* ends with his safe return from the Russian campaign; and we close his book with a sense of thankfulness that we have not seen what he has seen, and that our time has been spared a repetition of such horrors as were the portion of our fathers.

NEW NOVELS.

The Church in the World. 3 vols. (Skeet.)

The first portion of this novel gives every promise of a charming story; there is strength in the writing and spirit in the dialogue, and there is the looming of a mystery in the background dark enough to forebode a terrible explosion in due time. There is a Mrs. Cameron, a miser-

able and penitent woman, who has been a great sinner, and who has furrows in her forehead as though "dug out with a chisel"; there is Mr. Edfords, a subtle, scheming lawyer, living in a grand house, who, we are led to expect, will prove a true descendant from the wicked Uncle in 'The Babes in the Wood'; there is his niece, Mima, or "Gem" as she is usually called—what a bright, spirited, clever little creature she is!—seeing into the depths of her uncle's designs, circumventing them and detesting him: the reader could scarcely expect or hope too much from her. Then, there is that excellent young man, Mr. Hugh Feering, who has been forced into the Church for the sake of the family living, hating his position, and feeling himself overshadowed by a family mystery connected with his father's first marriage, which has made that father's life barren and black from a sense of wrong, but which, however, considerations of injustice and mercy keep him from revenging; so he is living on, doing battle with a fierce temptation, seeing his second wife and second family the innocent sufferers. Here was scope for a novelist! Mr. Edfords, the scheming lawyer, is apparently mixed up in this mystery, and has a plan of his own to bring to bear on it. All this preparation is borne out by powerful writing, with many thoughts well expressed; all leading the reader on with an interest and attention not often given to a work of amusement. Then there is John Griesly, the excellent, honest, steadfast, stupid man—one of those characters who deserve the best of treatment, but who (in novels at any rate) always get the worst. He has been elected for Gem's husband by the scheming Mr. Edfords, because the marriage will take her out of his road, and place her in an entirely different position in life—a respectable farmer's family, with dullness and heaviness enough to insure that she will never emerge from the comfortable obscurity to cross his path, or tell her version of the mode by which he obtained what ought to have been her inheritance.

All this is well-prepared ground for a first-rate novel; but just as the reader is expecting the story to go on, and to develop the dim fore-shadowings which have excited and beguiled him to the middle of the second volume, the author goes off—into *what?*—into *SERMONS*, neither more nor less!—sermons of the author's own composing, in the name of his two clergyman characters, Hugh Feering and Gilbert Glave. He forsakes his duty as a story-teller to preach sermons at long and at large! There is a capital chapter, taken alone, where Mr. Edfords discourses on preaching; but it deadens the action of the story, leads to nothing, and consumes the space required for developing and working out the plan of the novel. The sermons are so much out of place, and out of proportion in their length, that the novel is completely ruined, and the author's grasp over his characters is entirely lost. It is the most provoking work of fiction we have read for a long time. The author has power of thought and eloquence of style; a faculty for indicating character, for writing detached scenes very powerfully, but no faculty for linking them together. The story becomes like a rope of sand when the author attempts to give a reasonable account of the events that lead to the situations he details so well. There is a Mrs. March, who has some great wrong hidden away in her past life, and somehow it is connected with Mrs. Cameron, the dark, penitent woman of the first volume. It turns out that she is Mrs. Cameron's daughter; but what the unforgivable sin may be that her mother has committed against her the reader is not told, except that it is vaguely intimated that Mrs. Cameron

and Mr. Edfords had interfered to break off an engagement between her and Robert Feering, the son of the miserable first marriage of Hugh's father.

Robert Feering, the unloved, discarded, but not disinherited son, is scarcely introduced at all, except towards the end and as an outside character, though his wrongs and sufferings, and the part he plays in the last scenes, required some previous ground to stand upon. The deathbed of Mrs. Cameron and the too late relenting of the daughter, Mrs. March, is well and effectively done; but it stands detached and unexplained—it is not worked into the story. It seems that Robert Feering was the lover from whom Mrs. March was separated; and for the sake of a sensation-scene at the last, all probabilities are sacrificed;—the explanations are crude and as badly given as it is possible, and the whole handling is so clumsy and inartistic as to suggest that a hasty change of place was adopted after the book had been previously written. As to the portions that concern Gem and her husband, there is the same promise of a clever and interesting story, and the same miserable crudity and failure in the working out. Gilbert Glave, a clever, eloquent curate, falls in love with her, and she with him—for she is *femme incomprise* by her husband, who, much as he loves her, has made her life miserable by bringing home his sister and her son to torment and misconstrue her: there again the ground is well laid out. Mrs. Sayne, the sister-in-law, is capably sketched; but she goes off into the feeblest and most misty of characters. At the close there is a long account of Mr. Glave's sermons; but the story falls all to pieces. Mr. Edfords, the scheming lawyer, turns into a very benevolent old man; and his only sin, so far as we can make out, is that he is aware of its being his brother who long ago worked all the evil in Mr. Feering's first marriage, and he conceals that fact. Mrs. Cameron's sin consisted in being the luckless daughter of an illicit connexion, and Robert Feering is her brother,—so that he and Mrs. March are uncle and niece; but it is all told like a disjointed dream which fades away in the effort to narrate it. As to Gem and her husband, we are vaguely told to behold them on the deck of a vessel sailing down the Channel on a fine autumn evening, watching the shores of England as they recede from their view,—and we are informed they are on their way to make a new home in a distant land. As a novel, nothing can be worse than 'The Church in the World'; but it contains thoughts, observations and passages of eloquence and power which make us wish that the author would either study his art as a writer of fiction, or else abandon the line altogether.

A Bad Beginning: a Story of a French Marriage. 2 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

A very appropriate title! French marriages seem to be favourite subjects for writers who wish to exhibit the matrimonial bond as an ordinary contract, which, like mercantile contracts, may be broken with impunity.

Here is a French lady who determines, against the wishes of her husband, not to allow her daughter to appear in society, lest she should prove a rival in the admiration and guilty love which it is Madame's sole object to appropriate to herself. Can there be any doubt as to the unprofitableness of such a character being presented to the reader's imagination?

It cannot be denied that the character of Madame Forgeot is cleverly drawn, and is brought into stronger relief when contrasted

with that of her daughter, who in this case profited by the entire neglect of the one who was her natural guide and instructor. She gave her undivided affection to a husband who, in return, thus instructs her as to the true relation between husbands and wives: "For a few days or weeks they are sometimes lovers; after that, if they are amiable, and the wife is a discreet person who knows better than to interfere with her husband's arrangements, they subside into a calm friendship, infinitely preferable to the feverish excitement of ungoverned passion, and far less troublesome." In the midst of her trouble she makes the acquaintance of an old lady, Madame Decrespigny, who endeavours to comfort her by directing her mind to the true sources of happiness. "Célie listened in amazement; it seemed as if a new world of ideas was opened to her. Truth, albeit swathed and muffled in the swaddling-clothes of moral ignorance, was striving hard to get a hearing." She meets with many trials of her constancy, and mortifications and rebuffs to her affectionate disposition; and amongst them is an artful and designing sister-in-law, who brings against her the most stinging accusation of encouraging the attentions of a Mr. Ward. "Base and false as the accusation was, she shuddered and trembled at the remembrance of some looks and tones that brought a bright flush to her cheek; she did not care for any man's love save her husband's, but ought she to care for their admiration? Here she felt puzzled. She had been wrong, but not intentionally." This is the redeeming character in the book, and almost makes amends for the unpropitious commencement; and not least of all, because her temperament had become, from her early education and subsequent trials, more that of an Englishwoman than a Frenchwoman. And, moreover, her admirer, Mr. Ward, upon returning to England after a dangerous illness, looks back with regret upon some of the scenes through which he had passed: and with regard to Célie, "his conviction daily increased that she must have loved her husband, or she would not have been so perfectly at ease with, and at the same time so indifferent to himself."

The chief incidents in the story are cleverly and, in some parts, touchingly told. There is a story about the gambling debts of the sister-in-law,—an emerald necklace stolen from Célie to pay them,—an attempt at slow poisoning, and a violent death by drowning,—the reconciliation of Célie with her husband,—and, eventually, their deaths. Upon the whole, this 'Story of a French Marriage' is by no means a comfortable one. It had a "bad beginning," for there was no particular reason for the introduction of the first character. She had no connexion with the plot of the story, and was only introduced as an instance of a woman possessed of low and ungoverned passions. And the end of the tale is as unsatisfactory, although in a different way. It is most devoutly to be hoped, indeed, that there are but few such French marriages.

The Taeping Rebellion in China; a Narrative of its Rise and Progress, based upon Original Documents and Information obtained in China. By Commander Lindesay Brine, R.N. With Map and Plans. (Murray.)

THE Taeping Rebellion is worth studying, if only because it has a European, in addition to an Oriental, interest. Upon Great Britain it has actually forced a question of peace or war. We have been fighting in China almost continuously ever since the Plenipotentiaries of the two empires came to an amicable understanding at Peking. Indeed, generally speaking, one

Chinese peace means another Chinese war. We have, by turns, encouraged and assailed the insurrection. We campaigned at Pekin while we traded at Canton; and when Pekin had humiliated us, we went soldiering at Shanghai. Corresponding with these caprices of policy in the East have been the inconsistencies of opinion in the West. The Taepings, in the sight of England, are angels or demons, honey or vitriol, civilizers or exterminators, just as we choose; for it is perfectly easy to cram dogmatism in abundance on either side from books, pamphlets, speeches and leading articles. The "twenty-years' experience" men have come out in full force; and yet these are the very doctors who never by any chance agree. Moreover, the hesitating public judgment has been differently influenced by the same authorities several times since the movement began. And yet all this, while it wears a humorous aspect, is gravely to be regretted. A commercial nation cannot afford to play at fast-and-loose with China. We have simultaneously been signing treaties and throwing shells in the dark. Political and mercantile relations are rapidly extending between China and the West: we must, so long as we import tea and silk, interest ourselves especially in those Taeping fire-and-sword reformers, who hold so vast a power over the silk and tea districts; if not, our influence may be submerged,—and in that quarter of the East the submerging elements are already encroaching. It was far otherwise twenty years ago. Then we stepped quietly—indiscreetly, perhaps—upon the ill-favoured rock of Hongkong, cringing to China and blinking at Japan. Now we have hoisted our diplomatic flag at Pekin, are free to travel throughout the empire, may trade at ten seaports, and navigate the Yangtze. But others have grown with our growth. Russia has crept four hundred miles to the south of the Amoor, and her ships winter safely in Victoria Harbour. France is at length territorially established in Cochin China; and China itself, under all this pressure, with Russia on her north, France on her south, and England central, appears more likely to crumble than Capt. Brine is willing to admit. He enumerates the moral qualities of the Chinese; but these are of old date, and have not saved the empire. He refers to their endurance under medical treatment; this, again, is proverbial; the practice of torture, it may be, teaches a nation patience. Their industry, too, is historical; so is their enterprise. No doubt, they have begun to adopt European inventions; but does this fact prophesy to a certainty that their regeneration has commenced? It need not be inferred, however, that Capt. Brine, in his compact and useful volume, commits himself to any enthusiastic partiality on behalf of the Chinese. He believes they are improving and advancing, and capable of infinite further development; and he regards the Taeping movement as one which, however repulsive may be many of its details, is of a healthful tendency; he repeats none of the local and popular exaggerations on the subject; and his estimate, based on a good deal of authentic documentary evidence, deserves, at all events, to be respected.

An Introductory Historical Sketch reminds the reader of much that, even in books of pretension, is often not remembered. Thus, manuals exist which divide the annals of China into two great, distinct, white-and-black periods, the Chinese and the Tartar; the long, varying, intermittent conflicts being wholly forgotten: so that the preliminary chapter of Capt. Brine is useful. It is important to notice that the Chinese revolution at its outset was, as almost all revolutions are, financial. Thirty years ago the population of Kiang-si

were living on the bark of trees, and selling their wives and children. Earthquakes aggravated the evils of famine. Not long after, in the immense province of Sz-chuen, thousands subsisted upon a peculiar kind of earth found only in certain districts; the earth was dug up and made into rolls, leavened with a few grains of rice: perhaps partly as a consequence, a plague ensued, and millions of the starving people were swept away. Anarchy followed; despotism tried its usual remedies, and failed; the power of the throne was shaken, and has never since been re-established.

Capt. Brine enumerates these influences, which worked themselves into the great national and religious rebellion: but, before describing that movement, he draws a picture of the intellectual and political characteristics of the Chinese Empire. Possibly, he attributes more than sufficient merit to the formalistic and pedantic educational code of China, and to the Imperial administrative system, which, like the Chinese army, shows very well on paper. With respect to military matters, he calculates that, at the outbreak of the insurrection, there could not have been more than twenty thousand troops in each province to be depended upon for active service; and every one of the twenty thousands had, upon an average, seventy-two thousand square miles of territory, loyal or disaffected, to control,—with bad roads, and scarcely any facilities for military evolutions. On the other hand, it may be assumed that the rebels, however numerous, were even less competently provided. Next, the missionary principle is to be considered—particularly the labours of those earlier pilgrims who, in addition to their proselytizing toil, first mapped China for the geographers of the West. Undoubtedly, these Christian travellers prepared the soil in which the Taeping rebellion grew, though political and social events accelerated the explosion. Capt. Brine goes so far as to say that "the most important revolution that has ever taken place in China, and which will influence the future condition of the inhabitants of the immense empire to an extent and in a manner such as at present cannot be foreseen, owes its existence to the presence and action of their missionaries." The "their" in this passage refers to "the Protestant Mission Societies of Europe and America." But it is not to be forgotten that, while the Protestant Missions were opened in 1807, the Roman Catholic Propaganda had flourished for ages previously, and produced a visible effect upon the intellectual tone of the Empire. Be this as it may, for many years afterwards the Chinese, comparatively speaking, stagnated. They wanted an impetus, and it was given to them, naturally, almost necessarily, by one of their own countrymen, Hung-siu-tsen, of Kwangtung, a worthy whose name is no longer obscure in Europe, of poor origin, but ambitious, and a dreamer. It is remarkable that, during the trying period of famine, earthquakes and pestilence, when the people were dissatisfied, his visionary demonstrations began. He saw celestial beings; he received a heavenly commission, with a sword and seal—though not a revelation—and the seeds of the present apostleship were planted. This, with the subsequent incidents of Siu-tsen's career, is narrated, simply enough, by Capt. Brine, who usually follows Mr. Hamberg; but the details are familiar to most readers. It is noticeable that the official organ of Pekin never recognized the existence of the religious reformer until late in 1851: the insurgent leaders were designated as "robber-chiefs," though it is admitted that "the troops of Government are routed whenever they fall in with them." The Triad Society at an early date joined the Taepings, but were

discarded, or rather repulsed, by them, and afterwards fought savagely in the Imperial ranks. Hung-siu-tsen is declared to have said—

"Though I never entered the Triad Society, I have often heard it said that their object is to subvert the Tsing, and restore the Ming dynasty. Such an expression was very proper in the time of Kang-hi, when this society was first formed; but now, after the lapse of two hundred years, we may still speak of subverting the Tsing, but we cannot properly speak of restoring the Ming. At all events, when our native mountains and rivers are recovered, a new dynasty must be established."

After quoting a memorial addressed, in 1855, to the Emperor, Capt. Brine adds:—

"This memorial is a sufficient proof of how important an element the Triad Society was in fostering the outbreaks in the Kwang-tung and Kwang-si provinces; but with regard to the Taepings their influence may be totally disregarded. It has above been shown how prejudiced the Taeping chief was against them, and it does not appear that at any subsequent period they have ever been admitted (as Triads) among his followers."

There is abundant testimony to prove that between the Taepings and the Tartars exists a feud which can never be appeased. Nor can it be reasonably denied, though much ink and paper have been wasted in efforts to demonstrate the contrary, that the rebels, in their marches and after their battles, have been accustomed to perpetrate what, no matter how inveterate the warfare, must be regarded as atrocities. Their own boast at Nankin, in 1853, suffices:—

"Only about a hundred escaped out of a population of more than twenty thousand; the rest—men, women and children—were all put to the sword. 'We killed them all,' said the insurgents with emphasis; the recollection bringing back into their faces the dark shade of unsparing sternness they must have borne when the appalling execution was going on. 'We killed them all, to the infant in arms. We left not a root to sprout from.' The bodies were thrown into the Yangtze."

A year earlier, however, the proclamation of Yang, the Eastern king, had expressed the sentiments of the Taepings towards the Tartars; and it is a wonderful document. The Eastern king sets out by declaring that China belongs to the Chinese, and not to the Tartars. All was well, he affirms, when the Manchus came. Then a "flame of oppression went up to Heaven"; a vapour of corruption "defiled the celestial throne"; an offensive odour "spread over the far seas." And why, the royal memorialist asks? "China is the head, Tartary is the feet; China is the land of spirits, Tartary the land of demons." And "if all the bamboos of the southern hills were to be used as pens, they would not be enough to detail the obscenities of these Tartars." Here is vituperation of the sensation mettle, which may be commended to "powerful pens" of the present day. But the writer husbands his invective for an overwhelming historical climax. "Let us look for a moment into the origin of these Tartars. Their first ancestor was a cross-breed between a white fox and a red dog, from whom sprang this race of imps that have since increased abundantly." China, we are next told, was once, for a short time, "destitute of heroes." Then "the white fox ascended the throne; and these washed monkeys having put off their caps, rushed into the royal court." And so on:

"These facts must be familiar to you all. According to our calculation, the Manchus cannot be above a hundred thousand, and we Chinese amount to more than fifty millions; but for fifty millions to be ruled over by a hundred thousand is very disgraceful. Now, happily, a retributive Providence being about to restore the country to its rightful owners, and China having some prospect of a revival, men's minds being bent on good government, it is evident that the Tartars have not long

to rule. Their three times seven, or 210 years' lease, is about to expire, and the extraordinary personage of the five times nine has already appeared. The iniquities of the Tartars are full; high Heaven has manifested its indignation, and commanded our Celestial king sternly to display his Heavenly majesty and erect the standard of righteousness, sweeping away the demoniacal brood, and perfectly cleansing our flowery land."

There is hatred enough expressed in this proclamation. The author of it, Yang, has contributed not a few maxims to promote the economy of a household containing many ladies. He says—and his clemency is of a truly royal nature—

"With respect to the female apartments royal reformation must begin there. The palace is a fountain from which all government springs; hence he who wishes to illustrate intelligent virtue throughout the empire will first regulate his country; and he who wishes to have his country well regulated will first put his family in order. At present, through the favour of our Heavenly Father, the number of ladies at court is very great; the daughters of the king are also very numerous: it will not, therefore, be right to listen only to the statements of the elder ladies, and not give heed to the complaints of the younger ones; still less would it be right to mind the prattle of the younger branches of the royal family, to the exclusion of the remonstrances of the elder ones. In every case you should allow both parties to make their statements clearly, and thus you may decide between them as to which party is in the right and which in the wrong, without showing any partiality to either. When the ladies wait upon you, my elder brother, it is of course their duty, but sometimes they may be apt to excite your righteous displeasure, in which case you must treat them gently, and not kick them with your boot on."

When the ladies and maids of honour are to be corrected, they must, if invalid, be permitted to recover, and then not unmercifully whipped.

Further on, in allusion to the events of 1861, Capt. Brine writes, notwithstanding his manifest leniency towards the rebels of China, a "total disregard for the destruction of human life is one of the most marked characteristics of the Taeping rule"; but it was impossible to eclipse the barbarity of the Manchus; so that, if sympathies are to be weighed, this particular question may as well be left out of the balance.

When the European intervention began at Shanghai, the Taepings complained to the English and American representatives that "the French had been seduced by the money of the imps." Very few of the local English, however, now "uphold the Taepings and their policy"; it being thought, in contrast with former ideas, that they promise little either to Christianity or to commerce. Nevertheless, at this date they stand generally victorious, and must influence prodigiously, for good or evil, the future fortunes of the Empire. They command one-fourteenth of its area, one-sixth of its population, and one-fourth of its revenue—provinces which the Captain believes will occupy "the grandest commercial position in the universe." But with regard to the treaty-ports included within the increasing circle of the Taeping sway, the case is put thus:—

"With those who look upon the Taepings as a huge body of marauders, capable of no higher acts than these of indiscriminate slaughter and desolation, the policy which protects the treaty-ports from their destructive rule will be thought wise and just; with that minority who regard the Taeping rebellion as a grand national movement, which is destined to prepare the way for the political and moral regeneration of China, it must be considered not only prejudicial to European interests, but in every respect most unadvisable: all, however, will unite in regretting that it should have been deemed necessary for the protection of foreign interests to intervene in a civil war of such magnitude as that which is now desolating the Chinese Empire."

Generalizing, the writer is confident that the success of the Taepings would insure the fall of Buddhism, and a religious revolution throughout the Chinese empire. A native dynasty would be substituted for the Tartars. But—

"The first step to be taken is entirely to discard the idea, once so prevalent, that the Taepings represent Christianity, i. e. the Christianity as believed by the Protestants of the Church of England. With the faith of the Roman Church their creed is so thoroughly irreconcilable, that no greater disaster could happen to its mission than the accession of Hung-siu-tsen. The Catholic form of worship presents so many points of similarity with that of Buddhism as followed in China—particularly in the external ceremonial, the system of priesthood and the homage to idols—that should ever the iconoclastic tendencies of the Taepings obtain full sway, these, together with their known fanatical hatred to all Buddhist priests, would lead to this result, viz., that every vestige of Roman Catholicism would be swept from the empire."

And yet—

"Putting aside all questions regarding its political bearing, and even granting that it (in that sense) becomes extinct, the certainty remains that by means of its influence the religious belief of four hundred millions of people (nearly half the population of the whole world) will be gradually brought into harmony with that of the fast-spreading Anglo-Saxon race."

His own view is, that the Empire should, and will be, divided between the Chinese and the Tartars—a Chinese government north of the Yang-ze, and a Tartar government in Turkistan, Tibet and the North, allowing each to work out independently its own faith, civilization and policy. But the idea is sustained by no very strong or earnest argument, and, after all, while allowing that Capt. Brine has drawn a fair, faithful and vivid picture of the Taeping rebellion, we can scarcely see that, with reference to the future, he has done more than urge, in less familiar language, that "everything which happens will certainly occur."

The Book of Home Pets: showing how to rear and manage, in Sickness and in Health, Birds, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Guinea-pigs, Dogs, Cats, Squirrels, Fancy Mice, Tortoises, Bees, Silkworms, Ponies, Donkeys, Goats, Inhabitants of the Aquarium, &c. Illustrated by Woodcuts. With a Chapter on Ferns. (Beeton.)

THIS multifarious title-page does not announce all the contents of this volume. The object aimed at by the compiler, according to his Preface, is to give such practical directions for the management of household menageries as may help to put into bird-cages, dormers and kennels, instead of unclean and diseased creatures, healthy, contented and merry animals. But not merely are two sheets of the book devoted to ferns; there are to be found in it essays on the arts of preserving dead birds, reptiles, fishes, crabs, mollusks and quadrupeds. But books of this kind undertake too much. Why, a hundred pounds would scarcely suffice to buy all the books necessary for mastering the literature of the subjects it handles! The Fernery, the Aviary, the Aquarium, the Apiary, the Dovecot, the Stable and the Kennel, Poultry, the Silkworm, Falconry and Taxidermy, have each of them furnished subjects for many volumes—and, far from being exhausted, will supply themes for many more. Yet they are all here disposed of in 832 octavo pages of close print, by an anonymous compiler, whose practical acquaintance with his themes, as far as we can discover, has not enabled him to offer a single original and valuable suggestion.

Moreover, this writer is not invariably cor-

rect in his natural history. For instance, the following account of the water-spider:—"This curious creature weaves," says this writer, "its net under water, attaching the stays of it to the leaves and stems of the water plants; it moreover spins for itself a sort of tent, shaped like half a pigeon's egg. In this cell it lurks, waiting for a victim to be taken in its net, when it speedily disentangles it, and carries it in-doors to devour it at its leisure. Although an aquatic insect, the diving-spider seems to require more air than water alone affords. To meet this emergency, nature has provided it with a marvellous apparatus. Its abdomen and the surrounding parts are covered with a sort of second skin, and between the walls is stowed a stock of fresh air for the spider's use when it is submerged. When inflated with air, the insect bears the appearance of carrying on its back a globe of quicksilver." Now, there are nearly as many errors as there are statements in this account of *Argyroneta aquatica*. The air is not stowed between two skins, but is confined in the hairs all round the body; and the spider does not appear to carry a globe of quicksilver on its back, but seems itself to be a bit of animated silver. Again, it is the cocoon of white silk which is attached to aquatic plants, whilst the walls of the large egg-like bubble of air in which the spider lives are formed by a secretion of an unknown kind from the mouth, and not of silk from the spinnerets. The backswimmer (*Notonecta*), which is figured in this book erroneously as the boatman, has, like the silvery spider, the faculty of entangling air in the hairs of its body.

But, with all its defects, this compilation is well and agreeably put together, and will suit a class of readers. For, just as there are thousands of persons who go to see exhibitions, not to understand their marvels, but to be able to say they have seen them, there are many persons who like a book which gives smatterings of information on a multiplicity of subjects, because it enables them to talk about them. A crack orator of the House of Commons used to say there was nothing he found so difficult as to talk with a young lady who was seated next him at a dinner-table; and this is the sort of book to help any one to get over the difficulty. It is full of the sort of discussions and anecdotes which prolong morning calls and enliven country tea-parties.

The dearth of cotton caused by the war in America gives a universal interest at present to woollen and silk. No vegetable fibre, it may be positively predicted, ever can supply the place of vegetable hair; but it may be doubted whether cotton, the curling hair of certain plants of the mallow tribe, has not been employed, on account of its cheapness and beauty, for many purposes for which the hair of animals is better adapted. Many physicians are of opinion that no vegetable fabric ever ought to be allowed to clothe the human skin. Silk is worn around the chest and loins by many of the inhabitants of warm climates. Not a few elderly medical men who have spent their prime in tropical countries, on returning to spend the remainder of their lives in the British Islands are careful to wear nothing but silk next their skins. And that the production of silk is capable of great development cannot be doubted by any one who remembers the history of the silk trade. Henry the Second, who reigned towards the middle of the sixteenth century, is said to have been the first French king who wore silk stockings. Mary of England, by an Act of Parliament passed in 1554, enacted "that whoever should wear silk in or upon his or her hat, bonnet or girdle, scabbard, hose or open leather, shall be imprisoned during three months and

forfeit Scotland a pair of shoes like a Scotchman had none Queen first part we need homes palaces it might be used with e that an scheme pose o experie tile to And th Native and Cl develop that E compet The China "Acc of silk that 2, peror, I be turn wife to doubt l lady, s ance o result of her silk th goes on he at o under i worm a This myth beating transf A p compi Pets" the sas are no testim which dultity ancest to the is not intere into t whilst the q animal they n of Cor and i their s parati of Co denie the q scient may rabbi book by u and the d been a flow disco

forfeit ten pounds." King James the Sixth of Scotland, writing to the Earl of Mar to borrow a pair of silk stockings prior to giving an audience to the English Ambassadors, says—"for ye would not sure that your king should appear like a scrub before strangers." Henry the Eighth had nothing but worsted stockings to wear. Queen Elizabeth was much delighted with her first pair of silk stockings, and said she would wear no other sort as long as she lived. Silk, we need scarcely remark, is now less rare in the homes of small shopkeepers than it was in the palaces of kings in the sixteenth century; and it might, in the opinion of competent persons, be used as a substitute for cotton, very often with excellent results to human health. Not that any encouragement ought to be given to schemes of acclimatization. Unless for the purpose of studying the phases of insect life, the experience of France and Italy is decisively hostile to the culture of the silkworm in Europe. And the cost of transporting raw silk from the native countries of the Bombycidae, from India and China (whose resources might be vastly developed), is so small relatively to its value, that European silk-growers have no chance of competing with Asian exporters.

The myth of the origin of silk-weaving in China is not generally known:—

"According to Chinese historians, the cultivation of silk was practised 4,000 years ago. They assert that 2,688 years before the Christian era, an emperor, having a dim notion that the silkworm might be turned to commercial account, commanded his wife to devote her attention to the matter. As no doubt it was a matter of life and death to the poor lady, she secretly sought the advice and assistance of the scientific men of the period, and the result was that she was enabled to lay at the feet of her husband, the king, the first shred of woven silk the world ever saw. The Chinese historian goes on to say that His Majesty was so delighted, that he at once raised his wife to the rank of a divinity, under the style and title of the Spirit of the Silkworm and Mulberry Tree."

This is a more pleasing fable than the Grecian myth of Arachne, the gifted woman who, for beating Minerva in a spinning-match, was transformed by the angry goddess into a spider.

A perplexing and blameable feature of this compilation on "The Management of Home Pets" is the number of marvellous stories of the sagacity of animals which, if not fabulous, are not sufficiently authenticated. On adequate testimony, credence might be given to much which without it must be received with incredulity. All our home pets descend from wild ancestors, and have a tendency to revert back to the natural condition of their kind. There is not in Zoology an inquiry more curious, interesting or important than an investigation into the precise results of domestication; for whilst anatomists and physiologists are debating the question of man's place in the world of animals in comparison with the man-like apes, they may be reminded that there is a science of Comparative Psychology, which has its facts and its inferences, quite as much entitled to their share of weight as the observations of Comparative Anatomy and Physiology. The facts of Comparative Psychology, it will not be denied, are elements forming essential parts of the questions in debate; but these facts lack scientific verification. One donkey, for example, may be cunning enough to rob the oats of rabbit-hutches, as a writer quoted in this book asserts, by opening the gate of his field, by unfastening the hasp of the rabbit-house, and then, after eating his fill, refastening all the doors after him; or another donkey, having been drubbed by a gardener for treading upon a flower-bed to eat a favourite plant, may have discovered that it was his footprints which

betrayed him to punishment; but such extraordinary tales ought surely to rest upon proportionally satisfactory testimony. The public opinion of the nineteenth century is far removed from what it was in the seventeenth, when Descartes held that animals were only brutal machines. The word instinct or impulse no longer satisfies all minds; intelligence of some kind and degree being now generally conceded to animals, the ascertaining the nature and amount of which has become the business of the new science of Comparative Psychology. Hence the importance and duty of not giving currency to wonderful bird, cat or dog stories until they have been established by evidence such as would have been deemed satisfactory by a jury in a court of law or by a special committee of a learned Society.

The following story of an English mastiff may be true, and yet nobody is required to believe it upon the anonymous testimony of "my grandfather":—

"At the time in question, he lived at Yarmouth, and had for a neighbour a tanner, whose manufacturing premises were close at hand. The tanner had a mastiff that guarded his yard by night. The tanner had a foreman who lived with him many years—before the purchase of the mastiff, indeed. As the foreman was more about the premises than any one else, and as moreover it was his business to see that the dog was regularly fed, the greatest good feeling existed between them. It happened, however, that the foreman's integrity was doubted, and he was summarily discharged, and another man taken on in his place. It seemed that there was ample ground for suspecting the honesty of the old foreman; for within a month of being discharged he conceived the notion of robbing his late employer, by removing a cart-load of hides in the night, assuming that his intimate acquaintance with the yard-dog would protect him from difficulty in that quarter. So in the dead of the night he drove his cart just under the walls of the tanyard, and standing on the top edge of his cart, clambered to the top of the gate and dropped into the yard. The mastiff, instantly knowing the man, offered no resistance, nor in any way betokened his surprise at the nocturnal visit, beyond following the visitor about pretty closely. The hides were selected and tossed, one by one, over the wall into the cart; and then the thief, patting the dog's head by way of thanking him for his non-interference, began to scale the gate. This act, however, seemed to convince the dog that something must certainly be wrong; for although there might be a reason for climbing in, there could be no excuse for climbing out, when there was the gate, a touch at the bolt of which would give easy and proper exit; so, without troubling his head further about the matter, he seized the ex-foreman by the leg, and there held him till the arrival of the tanners in the morning."

To conclude with an old story which seems capable of a new application. The cook of a monastery, the legend says, found every day, for several days, that a monk's portion of meat for dinner disappeared from the dish very mysteriously. Having resolved to watch very carefully on the third day, he was called away by a ring at the gate-bell, but there was no one at the gate, and when he returned the portion of meat was gone as usual. When all was ready to dish up on the fourth day, the bell rang again; but the cook did not go to the gate, only going outside the kitchen, and there he saw the cat jump through the window and back again with a bit of meat. The thief was discovered; but who rang the bell? This point was cleared up next day, for the cook saw the cat jump at the bell and pull it. The cook told the story to the monks, and the monks spread it abroad, and many visitors came to the monastery, who for a small fee were permitted to witness the performance of the cat. "The small fee," says the author of 'The Management of Home Pets,' "paid for the extra rations

of the cat, and put a little money into the pockets of the monks as well." And now-a-days a critic may whisper, in an aside, Wondrous tales of this description help to swell out books like this one; and their price pays for the compiling of them, and puts a little money into the pockets of their publishers as well.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Our Feathered Families: the Birds of Prey. Being an Anecdotal and Descriptive Account of the Rapacious Birds of Britain. With a Chapter on Ancient and Modern Hawking. By H. G. Adams. (Hogg & Sons.)—The object of Mr. H. G. Adams has not been, he says, to furnish a textbook for the ornithological student, but to give popular and amusing descriptions of the feathered inhabitants of these islands. He has not attempted a strictly scientific arrangement of his subject, and as he included among the song-birds, birds which do not sing, he has described in the present volume birds which are not birds of prey, and in the next volume will include birds which are neither game-birds nor wild fowl. The seven or eight thousand known species of birds are usually grouped under the heads of eagles, perchers, climbers, pigeons, poultry, waders and swimmers; and confusion, we submit, rather than instruction or amusement, is caused by volumes on song-birds containing birds which do not sing, or on birds of prey containing birds which are not rapacious. The phrase "birds of prey" has an artificially restricted meaning, or else it would include a vast group indeed if it described all the birds which live upon animal food and hunt mammals, fishes, reptiles, crustaceous mollusks, spiders and insects. The fact is, as any one may satisfy himself by examining their crops, that birds live upon a far greater variety of food than can be supposed by the readers of books upon them or even than some high authorities in birdlore are willing to admit. Descriptions, such as they are, may be found in this volume, of vultures, eagles, falcons, hawks, kites, harriers, buzzards, owls, crows, rooks, ravens, jackdaws, magpies, jays, nutcrackers, starlings, dippers, cuckoos, wrynecks, swallows, swifts, woodpeckers, bee-eaters, flycatchers, chatters, rollers, tits and shrikes. Poetical extracts from well-known poets, or Bishop Mant's 'Book of the Months,' and prose extracts from very accessible writers, such as MacGillivray, Mudie, White and Selby, make up the bulk of the book. As for Mr. Adams's own share of it, his remarks show that his mind has never been elevated by the study of the marvels of bird structure nor his feelings thrilled by the poetry of their haunts and habits: and he avows that his aims have been to be merely amusing and popular. But we must doubt his success; for we have not found his pages amusing reading, and do not expect they ever will become popular.

On the Mountain: being the Welsh Experiences of Abraham Black and Jonas White, Esquires, Moralists, Photographers, Fishermen and Botanists. By the Rev. George Tugwell, M.A. (Bentley).—Any one might justifiably consider this book, including its "ornaments,"—two "enlargements of stereograms," by the Rev. H. B. Scougall,—as a joke, aimed at those who keep sentimental journals. Yet, we believe it has not been meant as such, but is put forth with an honest idea of making Wales attractive, and its writer interesting as one who is well acquainted with photography, fishing, and the management of delicate love-affairs. The traveller's library of books, by imagined travellers, though a wide one, is not of extraordinary interest or excellence; Hood's 'Up the Rhine' being, possibly, the last good specimen. Mr. Tugwell is tiresome, whether he speaks in his own person, or those of the warm-hearted squire, or his sister waiting to be won, and the self-sacrificing poor gentleman who did win her at last. Wales, in truth, is an unlucky country in respect to the literature which its picturesque and peculiar features and grand old legends have inspired. So much the better, however, for the right man, when he shall come, and succeed in arresting "the gentle reader's" attention on behalf of "peaks and passes," castles and costumes, and shall do what has been done for the

lakes and trsachs of North Britain—for our own Ullswater and Thirlmere—for the moor and shore scenery of Cornwall, or the breezy dales of Yorkshire.

The Life and Labours of George Washington Walker, of Hobart Town, Tasmania. By James Backhouse and Charles Taylor. (Bennett.)—No living body of religious believers would, probably, be more affected and surprised by being charged with superstition than the Society of Friends. Yet on something like a superstitious resolution to cling to the testimonies of their ancestors, not so much as being salutary, as saving, have they largely kept themselves together, and, in fond imagination, kept themselves pure of worldly contamination. What else are their eccentricities of "speech, behaviour and apparel,"—not to speak of the more serious theory on which their ministerial service is based, and which can license as oracles rambling, feeble, incoherent, hardly intelligible discourses, put forth on the plea of the speaker having "a concern" to express that which is arising in his mind, for the benefit of his congregation? Now that enlightenment is doing its inevitable work, and that the intelligent, liberal and inquiring persons of to-day's rising generations will no longer believe in the sanctity of "First-day," as compared with "Sunday,"—no longer admit that a shovel hat, a buttonless coat, and a bonnet such as *Miss Deborah Jewkyns* wore, have more significance than any fashion or uniform which caprice may snatch up and cleave to,—the Society is notoriously dwindling in numbers. Take away its superstition in the efficacy of its narrow forms, and little, indeed, is left to it. How unpalatable they must now be to all who desire realities and not semblances, we have been reminded by this publication of a record of missionary services voluntarily embraced by two conscientious men. Mr. Walker's claim on a biography rests on the missionary services made during long and fatiguing journeys and sojourns in South Australia and at the Cape, in company with Mr. Backhouse. Both men were observant as well as earnest; both laboured anxiously in that domain of sorrow, the world of penal discipline. Yet Mr. Walker's letters and journals, on which the interest of this volume wholly depends, are rendered wearisome, in places, to almost the semblance of unreality, owing to the pertinacious use of a phraseology which is not cant, but looks so like it that the general world cannot be expected instinctively to draw the line of difference betwixt sectarian foppery and sectarian hypocrisy. He was a pious man, it is evident, and a tradesman, as anxious to reconcile commerce with the narrow early scruples of the sect, now abandoned tacitly by common consent, as man could be who was still not prepared to brave the martyrdom of want, as better than a moderate ministration to the world's pomps and vanities. He was honest in his dealings and affectionate in his family; but these traits and virtues offer slender material, when combined and set down by the most assiduous affection. It is to be regretted, therefore, that the records of the active duties and services of his life, left by his own hand, should be shorn of so much attraction as they are by the formal shears of a gone-by sectarianism.

A Sailor-Boy's Log-Book from Portsmouth to the Peiho. Edited by Walter White. (Chapman & Hall.)—In a preface, which he styles a "Foreword by the Editor," Mr. Walter White gives the public an assurance which adds greatly to the value of a volume which, as a story of nautical adventure, will most certainly be popular with boys who have a love for the sea and a longing for sea-life. "This book," says Mr. White, "is what it purports to be, the work of one who entered the navy as a boy; went through the rudiments with more or less of satisfaction; sailed to China, where he smelt powder in the capture of Canton and the disastrous attempt to take the Taku forts; then visited Japan, and returned home a smart young topman. He kept a 'log,' as he calls it, during his term of service; and my editing has consisted, for the most part, in persuading him to copy his log over, with such advice as to suppression, elucidation, coherence and consistency as was required for the presentation of the narrative in a readable form. Apart from this, I thought it best that the young fellow, who

has some capability for telling a story, should tell it in his own way; especially as a boy's opinions, in their total disregard of consequences, charm us by their freshness and sincerity." The editor's assurance is supported by the internal evidence of the book itself, than which a better addition has not for many a day been made to the library of works for young schoolboys. A narrative of sea-life from the lower deck of a Queen's ship may have more important results than the diversion of children.

The British Tariff for 1862-63. Thirty-Sixth Annual Edition; brought up to October, 1862. By Edwin Beedell. (Bailey & Co.)—Mr. Edwin Beedell observes, "Those who have been accustomed during the last eighteen years to consult the pages of this book will readily discover that the present edition is not distinguished by such sweeping alterations of Customs Laws and Practice as have characterized many of its predecessors." The accuracy and completeness of Mr. Beedell's editions are known to all men of business.

Of Pamphlets on the American War and other subjects we have to record—*Federals and Confederates: For What Do They Fight? The True Issue of the American Civil War* stated, by B. D. (Caudwell).—*Arbitration and a Congress of Nations as a Substitute for War in the Settlement of International Disputes*, by John Noble, jun. (Tresidder).—*Cause and Probable Results of the Civil War in America, Facts for the People of Great Britain*, by W. Taylor (Simpkin).—*The American War*, by Newman Hall (Nisbet).—*The Cotton Famine, an Attempt to Discover its Cause, with Suggestions for its Future Prevention*, by "One of the Ruck" (Pitman).—*Papers relating to a Federal Union of the Australian Colonies* (Melbourne, Ferris).—*The Introductory Address delivered at the Opening of the Classes of Middlesex Hospital Medical College*, by Dr. Priestley (Chambers).—*Patent Dock Gates*, by R. A. Peacock (Weale).—*Flowers for Window Gardens in Town and Country: What to Grow and How*, by the Author of 'In-door Plants,' &c. (Faithfull).—*The Manual of Odd Fellowship, for the Use of the Initiated*, by J. Spry (Pitman).—*The State Banquet, a Fancy Fête at the Crystal Palace*, as witnessed and related by Arthur Matthiason (Hodson & Son).—*On the Worthlessness of Iron-clad Ships; to which is appended a Treatise on the New System of Anchorage*, by J. H. Milberg (Thinn).—*Explanation of the Floating Cylinders for laying Telegraphic Submarine Cables*, by Capt. J. H. Selwyn (Piper).—*An Appeal to Physiologists and the Press*, by Dr. Freke (Dublin, Fanning).—*Introductory Lecture delivered at the Opening of the Evening Classes of King's College*, by C. L. Bloxam. —*Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Cottage and Farm Architecture: Plans of Labourers' Cottages and Farm Buildings, with Specifications and Estimates* (Ridgway), and *The Temperance Congress of 1862* (Tweedie).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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Baldwin's African Hunting from Natal to Zambesi, &c. 1852-60, 2/1
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Borrow's Wild Wales, its People, Language, &c. 3 vols. post. 3/6 cl.
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Campbell's Language, &c. of the Highland Clans, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
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Wood's Natural History Picture-Book (Fish), square 8vo. 5/ cl.
World of Phantoms, a Poem, 8vo. 8/6 cl.

NEWS FROM THE GORILLA COUNTRY.

Loanda, September 7, 1862.
HAVING spent five active months in the Gorilla Country, I am in a position to state that M. Du Chaillu has shot neither leopards, buffaloes, nor gorillas; that the gorilla does not beat his breast like a drum; that the kulu-kamba does not utter the cry of kooloo, or anything like it; that the young gorilla in captivity is not savage; and that while M. Du Chaillu affects to have been "a poor feverish wretch!" at Camma (June 1st, 1859), he was really residing in robust health at the Gaboon.

Mongilomba, who is not a native hunter at all, and who was in my service three months as steward and natural-history assistant, duped Mr. R. B. Walker in asserting that M. Du Chaillu had killed two gorillas; nor did he ever accompany that gentleman except in the above capacity.

From the Balengi of the Muni, from the Shekani and Faus of the Gaboon, from the Commi Bakile, &c. of the Fernand Vaz, upon the banks of which rivers I have hunted (always unsuccessfully) gorillas, examining those only who were hunters, and reserving alone such evidence as was corroborative, I have gleaned the following facts respecting this ape of contention. The gorilla dwells only in the densest parts of the forests; he feeds exclusively on vegetable matter, and one kind of grass is a sure indication of his proximity; at noon and eve he approaches the village plantations for the sake of the plantains, occasionally uttering a wild kind of cry, but which in rage (as imitated by Etia) becomes a quick sharp bark. By day, he moves along the ground on all-fours (as, having crawled for hours on their tracks, I can testify), sometimes ascending the trees. By night, he chooses a large tree to sleep in. He is exceedingly wary and keen of scent. When the female is pregnant, he builds a nest (as do also the kulu-kamba and the chimpanzee), where she is delivered, and which is then abandoned. These nests, several of which I have seen, are simply rude layers of dry sticks, and of small branches evidently torn off the live tree by the hand. With regard to his ferocity, as a rule, when missed or wounded, he will charge. His charge, from which the natives often escape, being themselves nimble as apes, is made on all-fours. Etia, whose left hand has been severely crippled, informed me that the gorilla seized his wrist with his hind foot, and dragged his hand into his mouth as he would have done a bunch of plantains. Two things are at least certain,—that the gorilla is less feared than the leopard; and the story of the man killed by a gorilla at Camma is a complete fabrication. Traditional accounts of such an incident exist, but nothing of the kind has happened within the memory of man. The tale of the gorilla assuming a boxing attitude, and beating his breast like a drum, originated from Quengueza, and was unanimously refuted by all hunters from the Muni on the north, to the Fernand Vaz on the south. Thus in an obscure African village an old savage could tell a lie, which has blazed through Europe.

The Apingi country, which is the *Ultima Thule* of M. Du Chaillu's explorations, is distant from Gumbi (Numbi) four foot-days' journey, in a

southerly direction. In tracing the course of the Rembo, however, he adopted a longer route.

His description of the Fans (Bafanh), whom he visited in company with Mr. Mackey, of Corisco, is very good. In ascending the Gaboon to its rapids in the bosom of the Sierra del Crystal, I advanced some distance into their country, and found them gentle, hospitable, but cannibals undoubtedly, as one of them confessed to me. Even the account of their ghoul-like propensities is in one case supported by evidence which I find it impossible to disbelieve.

This book, so strange a *mélange* of truth and fiction, was prepared by a gentleman well known in the New York literary world, from copious notes made by M. Du Chailu when engaged in these expeditions. And I must do the latter the justice to confess, that from the same sources which afforded me proofs of his impostures, I learn that he is a good marksman; possessed of no common courage and endurance; that he has suffered many privations and misfortunes of which he has said nothing; that his character as a trader has been unjustly blemished; that his labours as a naturalist have been very remarkable; and that during his residence in Africa he won the affection of the natives and the esteem of those who most merit to be esteemed—the missionaries. And a fellow-labourer, though a humble one, may be permitted to regret that, actuated by a foolish vanity or by ill-advice, he should have attempted to add artificial flowers to a wreath of laurels which he had fairly and hardly earned. W. WINWOOD READE.

THE CEDARS OF LEBANON.

Royal Gardens, Kew, Nov. 15, 1862.

Sir Gardner Wilkinson will be glad to know that I have nowhere limited the age of the oldest cedar on Lebanon to 500 years: he will find my description of the famous Grove in the *January* (1862) number of the *Natural History Review*, p. 11, where the following passage occurs:—"Calculating from the rings on this branch (one from a very old Lebanon tree), the youngest trees now on Lebanon would average 100 years old, the oldest 2,500 years; both estimates, no doubt, widely far from the mark. Calculating from trunks of English rapidly-grown specimens, their ages might be calculated as low respectively as 5th and 200 years; while, calculating from the rate of growth of the Chelsea cedars, the youngest trees may be 22, and the oldest 600 to 800 years old."

Sir Gardner's remark that there are no seedlings in the Grove is quite correct; but I do not think the goats are wholly to blame for this. I have stated that though I could find no living seedlings, there were hundreds of dead ones *in situ*, but which had perished from drought.

His observation that the branches grow nearly in a horizontal waving line is also correct; but this is partly due to the excessive mutilation of the parts within reach of travellers and other *Turks*. It can, however, hardly be regarded as a difference between the Lebanon and English cedars, that the latter feather to the ground, whilst the former do not; for though many English cedars have this habit, more have it not.

With regard to the inscription of 1640 on one of the oldest trees not being covered with new bark during the succeeding 220 years, this is as it should be: the said inscription being cut in the outer bark, not in the liber layer, nor in the wood of the tree, it never can be covered by new deposits, as Sir Gardner supposes it might be. Indeed, its persistence on a bark which flakes, as that of the cedar does, shows that the growth of the tree was slow, or had ceased at the date of the inscription.

Since my paper (quoted above) was written, I have, thanks to Admiral Washington's kind offices, received from the Admiralty an accurate map of the head of the Kedisha Valley, with the Cedar Grove, and the position of every tree indicated on it, together with a full description of the site, and accurate measurements of the oldest and youngest

trees, by Capt. Mansell, R.N. This invaluable document, which confirms every statement contained in my paper, I hope to have the honour of laying before the Linnean Society, together with some further account of the Grove. In the mean time, I should be extremely obliged to Sir Gardner Wilkinson, or other learned Orientalist, if he would direct my attention to any earlier notices of the cedars than those of Maundrell and Rauwolf.

J. D. HOOKER.

PROOF ENGRAVINGS.

120, Pall Mall, Nov. 17, 1862.

THE remarks which are made in your number of last Saturday on the subject of proof impressions taken from engraved plates are calculated to induce proof subscribers to confine themselves to the ordinary states, or to give up their pursuits as collectors of choice engravings altogether, and thereby, if unrefuted, to cause an injury to publishers, and, as a natural consequence, to artists. I hope you will allow me to give you some data on the subject of proof engravings. I am not aware that "the sums paid by publishers for permission to engrave pictures has led them to cut down the engraver's charges as low as possible." There are publishers, who, having secured a popular picture and obtained a list of subscribers, in their shortsighted haste to realize profits resort to second-rate engravers; but this is not the general practice, and is, I believe, rarely done in the case of fine pictures: I can state of my own knowledge that such leading engravers as Messrs. Cousins, Blanchard, Lewis, Ryall, Landseer, Barlow and Simmons are paid at least as well now as they ever were, and much better than their predecessors. I do not guess what is meant by "the chicanery often practised on the public as regards proofs prior to the discovery of the beautiful process of electrotypes": this allusion to past misdeeds (not named) I can only suggest, if correct, should be levelled at the individuals deserving of censure.

The article goes on to the consequences of the process of electrotypes, suggesting the existence of several plates of the same engraving, one in each state of proofs and prints; and all producing impressions *ad infinitum*, and of almost equal value, and the breaking up of one of them "a farce."

In theory, it is true that it is possible to obtain by electrotypes any number of duplicates of engraved plates; but in practice this does not take place. In the first instance, the process of electrotyping plates has not yet been brought to such perfection as to render the duplicates equal to the original, especially in the case of works of great size and delicacy, such as ought alone to warrant the demand of fifteen guineas for proof impressions. The process is only used by the Art-Unions, who require large numbers, and must sacrifice quality to quantity. But, leaving out the Art-Unions, and coming to English publishers of the present day, I can state, as a fact, that the process is not in use amongst them; I know of but a single instance where a plate was electrotyped, and it never was satisfactorily proved that the duplicate was used: electrotypes are not used by English publishers; such practice would be considered by them as dishonourable if it were not publicly announced. In every instance when a plate has been destroyed this destruction was complete, as no duplicate remained behind to produce further impressions.

The very useful process of protecting plates by a coat of steel has proved indeed a great assistance, but it would be a mistake to suppose that it has for effect their perfect preservation; wear and tear still tell on a plate, though in a much slower way: the advantage of that useful discovery is, that it enables a plate to produce the larger number of good impressions now required, leaving, however, to the different states their distinguishing character and value. I may add, also, that it is the practice of publishers, in opening a list of subscriptions to their intended plates, to make a correct statement of the numbers of their proposed issue of proofs, which numbers are never extended, and that an office has been established these sixteen years where every proof produced by publishers is verified, stamped and registered.

As regards the prices of engravings, the publisher,

in settling what he must obtain from his issue, calculates the numbers he is likely to sell, and fixes his prices accordingly; very properly, I think, charging a lower price for the inferior or last impressions, and a higher price for the choice or first struck from the plate.

If only one price was to be fixed for all alike, the consequence would be that in lieu of a sliding scale from five to fifteen guineas, all should have to be charged alike at ten guineas to produce the same result; the abatement of five guineas would be a small boon to the wealthy, but a very great check on those who already deem five guineas a high price. These prices are already a mitigation of those charged formerly, when engravings of similar importance, but fewer in number, were often issued at prices ranking to as high as forty guineas for first proofs.

To expect that engravings can be produced like books, at a uniform price, is a fallacy; books are objects of necessity, whereas prints are luxuries, which must remain costly and are not expected to be in everybody's reach, nor can the frames and glass required to render them decorative be produced at lower prices. The high prices paid for copyrights are stimulating painters to greater efforts, and I could name many artists who, relinquishing the easy path of ordinary production, are now working with a view to obtain the great prizes the enterprise of publishers are holding open to all; and this spirit of emulation, the fruits of which will soon be apparent, must, more than anything else, tend to elevate the standard of Art in this country. E. GAMBART.

THEOLOGICAL CRITICISM.

6, Hinde Street, November 19, 1862.

Protagoras, Aristotle, St. Augustin, Melancthon, Scaliger, Bacon, Spinoza, Newton and Kant, all teach "that man can know only the finite." Sir William Hamilton, who cites these and many other authorities, teaches the same; as does also his disciple Mr. Mansel. If, then, for teaching "that man can know only the finite," I am chargeable with antagonism to sacred ideas, so too are all these. Had the 'National' Reviewer said that my doctrine, which he puts as the irreligious one, is antithesis to Mr. Maurice's as the religious one, is a doctrine held by the chief philosophers and sundry theologians, it would have been needless for me to say anything.

In his reply, the Reviewer does not quote any passage in which I "deplore the darkening influence of sacred ideas"; for the sufficient reason that there is none to quote. In the absence of one, he tries to justify his statement by deduction. He says I describe certain symbolic conceptions as "altogether vicious and illusive, and in no way distinguishable from pure fictions." He says, I assert that the three forms of ultimate religious ideas "severally involve symbolic conceptions of the illegitimate and illusive kind"; and that I must either hold that vicious and illusive conceptions do not "darken the human understanding," or that these religious ideas do. But why does not the Reviewer name these three forms of ultimate religious ideas which I have shown to involve "symbolic conceptions of the illegitimate and illusive kind"? Why does he not say that two of them are *Atheism* and *Pantheism*? If because I argue that the propositions of Dogmatic Theism, "when rigorously analyzed, severally prove to be absolutely unthinkable," it must be said of me that "I deplore the darkening influence of sacred ideas"; then, since I argue that the propositions of *Atheism* and *Pantheism*, "when rigorously analyzed, prove to be absolutely unthinkable," it ought to be said of me that I "deplore the darkening influence of" atheistic and pantheistic ideas. A just description of my position clearly requires that both these things shall be said, or neither. Why, then, does the Reviewer tell his readers one and not the other?

He alleges that in my quotation from him, I have omitted the sentence in which he states the function I ascribe to religion. There is no such sentence. The sentence he names does not state the function I ascribe to religion. The best way of showing this, and of enabling others to judge of the general question at issue, will be to set down in

† "Three cedars grown in Bedfordshire, at the age of 30 years, attained the girths respectively of 6 feet, 6 feet 6 inches, and 5 feet 8 inches."—*Gard. Chron.* 1833, p. 210.

few words, the propositions which the first section of 'First Principles' aims to establish.

At the outset I have given *à priori* reasons for concluding that men's religious beliefs must contain a "soul of truth"; saying, among other things, that there exists a *religious sentiment*, and that this must have a sphere and a function (p. 15). Proceeding next to examine the various hypotheses respecting the origin and nature of the Universe, I have pointed out that the propositions of Atheism, Pantheism, and Theism, are all logically untenable. Here I have quoted arguments from the Rev. H. L. Mansel, showing, as he says, that "the fundamental conceptions of Rational Theology" are "self-destructive" (pp. 39-43). At the same time I have urged that all these inadequate explanations of the Universe are testimonies to "the omnipresence of something which passes comprehension" (p. 45). Having shown how all the ultimate scientific ideas—space, time, matter, motion and force—lead, when analyzed, down to a mystery, and thus also testify to "the omnipresence of something which passes comprehension"; I have gone on to contend, against Hamilton and Mansel, that our consciousness of this omnipresent incomprehensibility is not *negative*, but *positive* (pp. 87-97). I have aimed to prove that though "by the laws of thought we are rigorously prevented from forming a *conception* of absolute existence, we are by the laws of thought equally prevented from ridding ourselves of the *consciousness* of absolute existence" (p. 96); and that our belief in this absolute existence, this inconceivable reality, has the highest validity of all beliefs. Lastly, I have argued that "in this consciousness of an Incomprehensible Omnipresent Power, we have just that consciousness on which Religion dwells. And so we arrive at the point where Religion and Science coalesce" (p. 99).

Now, I ask whether from the Reviewer's statement, as re-quoted by himself, any one would gather, or even suspect, that these are my positions. Yet the Reviewer says he does not misrepresent. Is it no misrepresentation to say that I recognize only a negative value in religion, when I have emphatically asserted that the religious sentiment must have a sphere and a function? Is it no misrepresentation to charge me with antagonism to sacred ideas, because of certain doctrines I assert, when these same doctrines have been preached and printed and adopted by ordained propagators of sacred ideas? Is it no misrepresentation to say I "undertake to prove that the human mind has no organ for cognizance of the Supreme cause," when, contrariwise, I "undertake to prove," against other writers, that though the Supreme cause can never be definitely conceived, yet the consciousness of the Supreme cause is indestructible? I have contended that our belief in an Existence transcending perception, has a *higher certainty than any other belief whatever*. Is it no misrepresentation to say that I regard the recognition of this Existence as a "dream of night"? I have asserted that "religion dwells" on "this consciousness of an Incomprehensible Omnipresent Power," "by which we are acted upon" in all phenomena (p. 99). Is it no misrepresentation to say that, as I describe it, "religion resolves itself into an acknowledgment of an *inscrutable background* to all phenomena"? I think your readers will say, that these are misrepresentations, and grave ones. I think they will admit that the words which I used respecting them were not unduly hard. And I think they will feel that by reiterating these misrepresentations, and adding others to them, the Reviewer's reply serves but to verify the characterization I gave of his entire criticism.

HERBERT SPENCER.

HAMILTONIAN LOGIC.

Nov. 10, 1862.

IN his last year's correspondence Prof. De Morgan brings two charges against Sir William Hamilton as a writer on logic. These are in his own words:—"1. That Hamilton has affirmed logicians in general to mean 'possibly none' when they say 'some'; 2. That he has given a system of syllogism which contains paralogisms." It would be difficult to exaggerate the gravity of these charges; and Prof. De Morgan, so far from having

attempted to do so, has laboured to extenuate the blunders they involve by offering an elaborate explanation of how so able a logician as Sir W. Hamilton might have fallen into them. This explanation is so extremely ingenious, and shows such a cordial appreciation of his old antagonist, that one can hardly help wishing there had really been something to explain. This, however, it may easily be shown, is not the case. On looking into the charges, it will be found that the first rests on a simple mistake, and the second on a groundless assumption.

The first charge, "that Hamilton has affirmed logicians in general to mean 'possibly none' when they say 'some,'" is thus fully stated by Prof. De Morgan:—

"Hamilton affirms that the logician, under 'some at least,' includes 'possibly none.' This the following quotation will establish ('Discussions,' 1st edit., page 635; 2nd edit., page 690):—

"But, in the second place, in point of fact, the Aristotelic contradiction only proceeds on a certain arbitrary hypothesis of particularity: to wit, that 'some' is to mean only 'some at least' possibly, therefore, *all or none* thus constituting, both in affirmation and in negation, virtually a double proposition,—a proposition comprising, in effect, two contraries."

"There is no ambiguity here. Hamilton clenches his assertion that 'some at least' may be *none* as well as *all*, by affirming that under 'some are' the logician gives a possibility of either of the logical contraries 'all are' and 'none are.' But for this, it might have been thought that the words 'or none' came by mere slip of the pen."

Had Sir William Hamilton ever really said what Prof. De Morgan here attributes to him the blunder would have been so gross, so stupendous indeed, that no amount of human ingenuity could, as it seems to me, have availed to explain or even to extenuate it. Happily, he has done nothing of the kind, and the sentence which so much puzzles Prof. De Morgan is merely a brief and slightly elliptical statement of an elementary fact in logical science. The condensed form of Sir William's expression must have misled Prof. De Morgan; but how the mistake into which he has fallen could have survived a second perusal of the sentence or a single reading of the context, it is difficult to conceive. Prof. De Morgan imagines that both the quantifying terms ("all" or "none"), contained in the parenthesis, refer to the affirmative "some"; whereas it is perfectly clear that the first alone refers to the affirmative "some" (some are, some at least, perhaps all), and the second to the negative "some" (some are not, some at least, perhaps all, i.e. none are). Had there been the smallest doubt on this head the fuller explanations given on the page of the "Discussions," from which the passage is taken, would have abundantly removed it. In a note Sir William Hamilton repeats and amplifies the statement of the text quoted by Prof. De Morgan. His words are:—"Affirmatively, 'some' means 'some at least,'—some, perhaps all'; that is, 'some,' itself always indefinite, but not definitely exclusive of the definite 'all.' Negatively, 'not some' means 'not some, at least,—not some, perhaps none'; that is, 'not some,' itself always indefinite, but not definitely exclusive of the definite 'not any,' or 'none.' 'At least' is the catchword of this system, in affirmatives as in negatives." This surely is sufficiently explicit. But even as it stands there is no real ambiguity in the sentence Prof. De Morgan quotes, the explanatory clauses that follow the parenthesis sufficiently explaining its contents. After stating that in its Aristotelic use "some" is taken to mean "some at least" (possibly therefore *all or none*), Sir William adds, "thus constituting, both in affirmation and negation, virtually a double proposition—a proposition comprising, in effect, two contraries." The explanatory clause, "both in affirmation and negation," is sufficient to remove all ambiguity, and to prove, it might have been supposed beyond the possibility of doubt or cavil, that in the passage Sir William is dealing with the two cases of "some," the affirmative and the negative. But if any lingering doubt were still possible, it would be effectually dissipated by the final clause referring to the two pairs of contraries,—the pair comprised in the affirmative and the pair com-

prised in the negative "some." In the affirmative "some" (some are), we have the two contraries "some are not" and "all are"; and in the negative "some" (some are not), the two corresponding contraries "some are," "none are." Curiously enough, Prof. De Morgan finds in these explanatory clauses a decisive confirmation of his primary error. He says, "Hamilton clenches his assertion that 'some at least' may be *none* as well as *all*, by affirming that under 'some are' the logician gives a possibility of either of the logical contraries 'all are' and 'none are.'" After what has been already said, it need scarcely be repeated that Hamilton has affirmed nothing of the sort, and that this imaginary "clenching" and these fictitious "contraries" are only another blunder added to Prof. De Morgan's original mistake.

Prof. De Morgan's second charge, "that Hamilton has given a system of syllogism which contains paralogisms," rests on an assumption of the very point to be proved. The letter containing this charge would occupy too much space; but Prof. De Morgan summarizes its main points as follows:—

"That Hamilton, having introduced the word 'some' as signifying that what is denied of part is affirmed of the rest, and *vice versa*, proceeds to lay down, as valid, a system of syllogistic forms, some of which, under this meaning of 'some,' are absolutely invalid. As, for instance, a form under which we may reason as follows:—All lawyers are men; no lawyer is stone; therefore *some* men are not stone (i.e. the rest are). This I called the *Gorgon* syllogism."

The alleged invalidity of these syllogisms wholly depends on the use of the quantifying term "some" in a special sense. But Prof. De Morgan offers no proof whatever that it is so employed in the scheme he criticizes. He states, indeed, what is perfectly true, that Sir William Hamilton signalized this particular meaning and contended for its partial use. Sir William Hamilton, in applying his new doctrine to propositional forms, discusses the vague generality of "some" in its ordinary use as a mark of quantity, points out that it may be taken in a narrower or more definite sense, and proposes the introduction of this new meaning "alongside of the other" in particular cases and for special objects. These objects, as Sir William defines them, all relate to propositional forms. The partial use of the narrower "some" not only yields a complete and consistent scheme of opposition, but supplies certain valuable forms of immediate inference. For these reasons, Sir William introduces alongside the ordinary and vaguer "some" (some at least) the more definite "some" (some at most), as a mark of quantity; but he carefully defines the condition of its use, and specifies the instances in which it is actually employed. From this partial and well-defined use of the more definite "some" in the treatment of propositional forms, Prof. De Morgan assumes that Sir William Hamilton not only carries it over into his scheme of syllogism, but applies it to every detail of that scheme. On this assumption he founds the charge of false reasoning preferred against Sir William Hamilton, and falls into various difficulties and perplexities with regard to Sir William's "systems." These perplexities are hardly to be wondered at. A thinker of half Prof. De Morgan's acuteness might easily, in this way, multiply gratuitous difficulties and imaginary faults to almost any extent, and amuse himself to the end of his days by ingenious attempts to explain or extenuate them. The point Prof. De Morgan takes so easily for granted—that "some" in Sir William's scheme of syllogism must always be taken in the more definite sense—is the very one that pre-eminently requires the most detailed and decisive proof.

Prof. De Morgan offers no proof beyond the simple assertion that the system is "fashioned upon this sense." As assertion may be fairly enough met by counter-assertion, I venture to say that in the cases referred to "some" is not used in the sense attributed to it by Prof. De Morgan, and that for very good reasons. Referring to the so-called *Gorgon* syllogism, Prof. De Morgan adds at the close of his letter—"I do not say that Hamilton himself would have admitted this syllogism. But I do say that those who will accept

his writing to the scheme but how Gorgon as perfect William Morgan of ro assault while, calling of letter scientific much le tions and I oug to Prof use of the new do necessa to Sir W the syllo been sp his class Sir Will the ord the syllo accusat doctrine part of deed, A was rea early, I impress this dat and in though I cannot

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his writings as they stand must admit it." I venture to think that Sir William would have held to his scheme in spite of the Professor's adverse criticism; but however that may be, I cheerfully accept the *Gorgon* syllogism not only as perfectly valid, but as perfectly consistent with the other parts of Sir William's system. I do not see that Prof. De Morgan has said anything to invalidate this form of reasoning. Should its validity be seriously assailed, I will endeavour to vindicate it. Meanwhile, there does not appear to me anything further calling for special reply in Prof. De Morgan's series of letters. A carefully wrought-out and thoroughly scientific system is not to be proved erroneous, much less "convicted of absurdity," by mere assertions and assumptions.

I ought, perhaps, to add a word of further reply to Prof. De Morgan's question as to Sir William's use of the more definite "some" in expounding his new doctrine from the chair. This is the more necessary as my previous reply referred exclusively to Sir William's use of "some" in his treatment of the syllogism—the point in which his system had been specially assailed. Within my experience of his class-teaching (up to the close of session 1853-4), Sir William did not, that I remember, depart from the ordinary meaning of "some" in dealing with the syllogism. But for years before this he was accustomed to expound briefly from the chair his doctrine of immediate inference, and of course as a part of it the different meanings of "some." Indeed, Appendix (c) of the 'Logical Fragments' was read in the class as a supplementary lecture as early, I believe, as 1849, if not earlier. And my impression is, that for two or three years before this date these different meanings were explained, and in part applied, under the head of propositions, though when the distinction was first introduced I cannot positively say. THOMAS S. BAYNES.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Her Majesty has commissioned Mrs. Thornycroft to make a bust of the Princess Alexandra of Denmark; and Her Royal Highness is giving, daily, the necessary sittings for the model.

At length we have direct and decisive news from the Gorilla Country. Our readers are aware that Mr. Winwood Reade and the famous Indian hunter known as 'The Old Shekarry' went out to the Gaboon about a year ago. They arrived in the colony in the early spring. The spirit in which they went over the ground described in M. du Chaillu's romance may be judged by the period during which they collected facts and held their peace. At the end of five months they are in a position to speak; and we venture to think that Mr. Reade's report will confirm the view at which all men of sense and science had previously arrived. No one doubted that M. du Chaillu had been in the country, and that he was a goodnatured sort of man. People refused to believe that a book full of amusing contradictions and absurdities was *true*; and for this refusal they have now received from an English witness at the Gaboon a further and conclusive warrant.

Lord Palmerston has added to his many honours the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University. Mr. Gladstone has been re-elected Rector of the University of Edinburgh.

Messrs. Bosworth & Harrison have purchased the right of publishing a translation of W. Fischel's work on the English Constitution. Mr. R. J. Shee has rendered the text into English, and the work will be published in a few weeks.

We give the following note, as requested:—

"Harrow, Nov. 11, 1862.

"As several book-clubs have done me the honour of announcing in their list of forthcoming works 'A New Tale by the Author of Eric, &c.,' would you be so kind as to allow me an opportunity of saying that this announcement has never been authorized either by me or by my publishers?

Yours, &c.

FREDERIC W. FARRAR."

We are requested to state that the National Portrait Gallery, 29, Great George Street, Westminster, will be closed from Saturday, November 29th, to Wednesday, December 17th.

Of the blunders which have been perpetrated with regard to the road crossing Hyde Park, —and the early history of its formation shows not a few,—the last, which took effect this week, was the greatest. The road has been closed again; and the blockaded desert which, by the arrangements of the Woods and Forests, intervenes between two important sections of London is again established. Surely this is a little beyond reason: it was urged years ago that such a road was imperatively needed, and now that the south side of the park is thickly settled, common sense should compel the authorities to keep open a road already formed. If the International Exhibition is closed, the South Kensington Museum remains open, and the Great Western Railway Company has not closed its terminus at Paddington, nor refused to take passengers from Brompton or Chelsea; the west-central, northern and eastern portions of the metropolis are still on visiting terms with those to the south-west, nor is there any special reason why cab-fares in this quarter should be doubled. All the cost of making the road for a temporary purpose and the advantage of solidity gained to its surface by use for six months are now to be thrown away, it seems, and this most convenient pass, which no one has found inconvenient amongst the spare users of Hyde Park, is shut up. Surely the cost of maintaining the road, now it is made, would not be great, while its value is beyond denial.

We have at last got a new bridge across the Thames at Lambeth, where it has been talked about for centuries, and much needed ever since the parish of Lambeth got its name from a hithe or landing-place, at the spot where the new bridge now is. Fitzstephen, so long ago as the time of our early Norman kings, laments the dangerous character of the crossing, which long ere his time was one of the most important ferries or places of transport in the kingdom. He says, people were often detained at the hostelry for days, on account of the tempestuous state of the weather preventing the employment of the old horse-ferry, —hence Horseferry Road on the Middlesex shore. The spot has innumerable historical associations, from its use as a ferry and also as the landing-place attached to the ancient archiepiscopal palace. Mary of Modena, when James the Second fled, waited under the old church-wall for some hours while it rained and blew violently, and the boy she held in her arms wailed, unconscious of his lost heritage. Here stands Mr. Barlow's wire-bridge, not a beautiful structure, except in so far as it promises to do its office, and has that structural propriety which is the most important element of design. At a cost of 30,000*l.*, including the approaches, this useful but narrow edifice has been set up. It is 1,040 feet long, or about that of the water-way of Waterloo Bridge. Between the abutments from shore to shore are 828 feet; 78 feet more than the water-way of New Westminster Bridge, and 50 feet more than that of Blackfriars. Its width is 32 feet, the roadway taking up 20 feet of this space, and each footpath 6 feet: it is 21 feet above high-water mark. The gradient of the approaches is very steep, being not less than 1 in 20. This was compulsory, owing to the great cost of making extensive alterations in the levels of existing roads leading to the work. If the speculation should become profitable, the proprietors will see their interest to lie in remedying this defect. The suspension-ropes, which are formed of wire manufactured on the spot, are passed across the heads of four towers, made of 4-inch boiler plate, rivetted precisely in the manner of the Britannia and other tubular bridges. There are three spans, of 280 feet each. On the shore ends of the structure these towers are supported on foundations of solid masonry; those in the river rest on cylinders of cast iron, 12 feet in diameter, and looking like gas-pipes screwed in the river-bed. These descend 18 feet below the river-bed, and rest in the London clay: 9 feet of this has been filled up solid with concrete; over this come 3 feet of brickwork, then a lining of brick formed like a ring, 3 feet thick, reaching to the top of the cylinder or base of the tower it sustains. The cavity thus formed will be useful for inspecting the condition of the piers. There are two main ropes of twisted wire on each side of the work,

each composed of seven strong strands banded together, each of the seven containing seven strands of wire 1.5th of an inch in diameter. The united strength of the main ropes is calculated to bear 4,000 tons, the ordinary traffic on the bridge being estimated at about 600 tons. These ropes are screwed at either end round an eye-bolt, or staple, with 28 screw-bolt fastenings, which will bear a strain of more than 2,000 tons; the ultimate anchoring of these is secured on both sides of the river with ample strength. On the Westminster side 12 square cast-iron caissons, or boxes, of 7 tons each, have been sunk below the pent in a hollow square, their interiors and the space within filled with concrete, so as to form a solid mass, that rests 20 feet below the surface. The suspension-ropes thus formed and secured carry rods, that are attached to the rigid suspension-girders that lie beneath the bridge, and obviate the unpleasant, or even dangerous, swaying and vibratory motion of suspension-bridges. These girders seem not to be beams of solid iron, as in former cases,—the Moorish bridge at Chelsea, for instance,—but to be built up of boiler-plate, like the towers themselves.

Messrs. Griffith & Farran open the season for illuminated books with a pretty little volume entitled 'Aphorisms of the Wise and Good,' with illuminated borders by Mr. S. Stanesby. The text comprises a great number of the "jewels five-words-long that on the stretched forefinger of all time sparkle for ever," in epigrams of keenest point, extracted from Shakespeare, Bacon, Milton, Addison, and the like. With these are many dreary trifles and laborious aimings at subtlety. It is right to hold that amazing erudition has been shown in the selection, which stretches from Zoroaster nearly to Mr. Tupper. Mr. Stanesby's portion of the work has been tastefully and carefully done.

The last Australian mail reports that another great achievement in exploration has been performed by M'Kinlay and his party. The continent has been traversed for a third time. M'Kinlay has travelled from the outer districts of South Australia to the Gulf of Carpentaria, and thence to Port Denison. The telegram from Sydney to Sir Henry Barkly is as follows:—"Capt. Adams, of the brig *Fortune*, which arrived last night (Sept. 18) from Port Denison, *via* Broad Sound, brings the welcome intelligence that M'Kinlay has returned safe. M'Kinlay and party had been to the Gulf of Carpentaria it is stated, and arrived thence at Port Denison in the early part of July. From the latter place they started in the ketch *Ben Bolt* for Rockhampton; but, after beating about for nineteen days, the vessel was compelled to put into Broad Sound for provisions on the 4th of September, and sailed again on the 5th for Rockhampton, from which place M'Kinlay intends to take the steamer for Sydney. The party are all well, and, so far as Capt. Adams could ascertain, not one had been lost on the journey, which extended over thirteen months." Last Tuesday, all doubt on the subject was removed by the following telegram:—"Mr. M'Kinlay, Mr. Middleton (second in command), and four men, arrived by the *Balcutha* yesterday: the rest are still in Queensland. They report the country between Carpentaria and Rockhampton as more rugged than the route from South Australia. A complimentary dinner and address were given to the explorers at Rockhampton. They have been well received here, but the time is too short. Mr. Middleton, who remains here, is going to England, the rest have left for Melbourne."

It is only fair to rescue one little book—"La Trêve de Dieu"—from the list of impure things in company of which an indignant Correspondent lately found it. 'La Trêve de Dieu' is one of the pretty moral stories of M. Jules Tardieu.

M. Coste, who has long paid great attention to pisciculture in all its branches, has recently made a very interesting report to the French Academy of Sciences 'On the Condition of the Artificial Oyster-beds on the West Coast of France.' The principal locality selected for the operations is the shore around the Isle of Ré. This island, which is sixteen miles long and four broad, is very favourably situated for the breeding of oysters. The sea-

bottom fringing the island was cleared from all impurities; and the seed from oysters having been strewn on the bottom, the work of reproduction went on. Now it is calculated that seventy-two millions of oysters are produced annually, which at the rate of 25 or 30 francs per thousand, amounts to two million of francs per annum. M. Coste states that nothing but very violent currents and a bad sea-bottom prevent the oysters breeding.

"This morning," writes our Naples Correspondent under date November 10th, "the University is opened, under the new regulations introduced by the Minister of Public Instruction, Signor Matteucci. Considerable opposition has been made to them; but this has been overcome, and our great 'place of study' will enter this morning on its new career."

Schiller's birthday (November 10th) has been celebrated this year, with more or less splendour, in nearly all the greater towns of Germany, and bids fair more and more to become a national festival with our cousins beyond the North Sea. At Mannheim, additional importance was given to the proceedings by the unveiling of a colossal bronze statue of the poet, cast, after a model of Caer, in the Royal Brass Foundry at Munich. A literary relic of Schiller (the existence of which has been mentioned in former numbers of the *Athenæum*) has been published also in honour of the day. It is entitled "Ich habe mich rasiren lassen. Ein dramatischer Scherz von Schiller. Aus der Originalhandschrift herausgegeben von K. Künzler."

The death of Ludwig Uhland is sure to create a deep sensation throughout Germany, whose favourite poet, and one of whose truest patriots he has been during the last half-century. On the 24th of February of this year he had been seen, as one of the chief mourners, at the bier of his friend Justinus Kerner; on the 26th of April, his seventy-fifth birthday had been celebrated with general enthusiasm all over the country; and now the grave has closed over him, so that when the nightingales of the Neckar usher in his next birthday he will hear them no more. Uhland's death took place, after a long and painful illness, at Tübingen, on the 13th of this month, at nine o'clock in the evening. Germany in him loses a great poet and a true man—a man whose heart was as pure and noble as his head was clear and his lips were tuneful,—one whose name, from the Alps to the North Sea, had become a household word in hall and cottage. We abstain from giving an abstract of Uhland's life and works; they are universally known in this country. Our only object is to record, with grief and sympathy, the sad event of his departure.

King Ludwig (writes a Correspondent) goes on indefatigably with his additions to the artistic treasures of Munich. Two large pictures have just been added to the New Pinacothek, one a religious work by Dr. Schrandolph, the other a noble landscape by Albert Zimmermann. The latter work is by far the finer, and is executed with great power and firmness of colouring. It represents a piece of mountain country, with a waterfall foaming down in large masses, fed by a blue glacier. The rocks that start up in every direction in the bed of the stream and on the ground stretching away from it are admirably painted; while the foam of the boiling water in the deep caldron into which it has plunged, the scanty vegetation, the fallen tree hanging over the stream, are all reproduced with poetic fidelity. Albert Zimmermann, the painter of this landscape, is Professor in the Viennese Academy, and occupies deservedly a high place in his art. The other painter, Schrandolph, one of those who executed the frescoes in the Boniface Basilica in Munich, and the decorator of the Cathedral of Spire, is already represented in the New Pinacothek by a picture of the Ascension, and his present work is much in the same style. We have the old conventional types of religious painting as they have existed since the days of Raphael, the same feeble characteristics of each person, the dress, the grouping, the architecture in the background, that might almost be produced by machinery. The subject of the picture is the inquiry of John's disciples, "Art thou he that

should come?" and the answer of Our Lord. There is merit in the face and figure of the boy receiving his sight, though it can scarcely be true to nature: the first moments of seeing would probably be moments of dazzling, almost of pain, rather than of upturned rapture. But this figure is the painter's own; the rest is second-hand eclecticism, and produces very little effect, however clearly and smoothly it may be executed.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES by the MEMBERS, WILL OPEN, November 24th, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East. JOS. J. JENKINS, Secretary.

WINTER EXHIBITION, 150, Pall Mall.—THE TENTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES by living British Artists, is now OPEN daily from 9.30 A.M. to 5 P.M. Admission 1s. Catalogue 6d.

MR. JOHN LEECH'S GALLERY OF SKETCHES IN OIL, from Subjects in *Punch*, with several New Pictures not hitherto Exhibited, is OPEN every day from 10 till dusk, illuminated with Gas, at the AUCTION MART near the Bank.—Admission, One Shilling.

BEDFORD'S PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE EAST, taken during the Tour in which, by command, he accompanied H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in Egypt, the Holy Land and Syria, Constantinople, the Mediterranean, Athens, &c. EXHIBITING by permission, and Names of Subscribers received, at the GERMAN GALLERY, 108, New Bond Street, DAILY, from Ten till dusk.—Admission, One Shilling.

THE GEORGE CRUIKSHANK GALLERY.—NOW ON VIEW, in the PICTURE GALLERY, EXETER HALL, a Selection of SEVERAL HUNDRED PROOF ETCHINGS, SKETCHES, &c. embracing a Period of upwards of Fifty Years, from the WORKS OF GEORGE CRUIKSHANK, together with his latest and greatest work, THE WORSHIP OF BACCHUS.—Open daily, from Ten to Five o'clock.—Admission, One Shilling; from Half-past Seven to Half-past Nine in the Evening, Sixpence.

INVITATIONS TO EVENING PARTIES and the SEASIDE will be issued by Mr. EDMUND YATES, at the EGYPTIAN HALL, early in December. Mr. HAROLD POWER will be one of the party.

POLYTECHNIC.—THE COTTON FAMINE, Zostera Marina, Flax, Jute and other Papers.—Professor J. H. PAPER, his Lecture, illustrated with the Oxy-Hydrogen Microscope, Experiments, and an entirely New Series of Dissolving Views, designed and painted by J. A. Benwell, Esq.—The Laboratory is always open for Pupils and Analysts.

SCIENCE

SOCIETIES.

ASIATIC.—Nov. 17.—Lord Strangford, President, in the chair.—The substance of a paper, by O. De B. Prialux, Esq., 'On the Relations of Rome with India subsequently to the Fall of Palmyra,' was given by that gentleman, showing by numerous quotations from writers of the period down to the conquest of Southern Arabia by the Persians under Nushirwan, that although Buddhism appears to have exercised a certain influence from time to time over one of the conflicting religious systems established in the southern provinces of the Lower Empire, all regular and direct intercourse with India had ceased, and all true knowledge of that country and its inhabitants had become obliterated.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—Nov. 17.—Mr. T. Hayter Lewis read a paper—'Some Remarks on Colour and Coloured Decoration.'

ETHNOLOGICAL.—Nov. 18.—J. Crawford, Esq., President, in the chair.—The new Fellows elected were J. Sheil, Esq., F. Galton, Esq., S. B. Pusey, Esq., W. A. T. Amhurst, Esq., Dr. Eastwood, Sir E. Ryan. Honorary Members: His Highness the Viceroy of Egypt, His Highness Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte, Dr. E. Nicolao, of Naples. Corresponding Member: Dr. Kollmann.—Mr. T. Wright read a 'Report on the Papers read in the Ethnological Section at the British Association Meeting at Cambridge.'—The next paper was by Capt. R. Burton, Her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, 'On the Fans, or so-called Cannibal Tribes of the Gaboon Country.' This paper was the result of a day's visit to the trading village of Mayyán, on the 13th of April last, in company with Mr. Tippet, of the Baraka Factory of Messrs. Druce & Walker. Accustomed as his ears are to the frantic noisiness of an African village, his first remarks are upon the excess of outwail at this place—a good sign, he thinks, in barbarians, as the lowest tribes are too apathetic to regard anything, however strange to them. He describes these people as of mild aspect, and as not having curly, crisp hair, like the negroes of the coast. He confirms the statements of their being cannibals, but states that it is only those slain in war that are eaten, and these

by the men only, and secretly, "no joint of man ever being seen in their villages." The appearance, dress, manners, style of houses and streets are minutely described, and with the freshness which always characterizes first impressions. To the paper a small vocabulary was added of words in use by this people.—Another paper was read by Mr. Wright 'On Human Remains found at Uriconium.' Human remains have been met with in the cemetery outside the walls; within the walls—namely, of those of the men, women and children massacred when the city was taken and destroyed; and, thirdly, there are skeletons found interred within the walls, the skulls of the majority of which present a uniform distortion of form.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Nov. 11.—J. R. McClean, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Railway System of Germany,' by Mr. R. Crawford.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Actuaries, 7.—'Estimating Liabilities of Life Insurance,' Mr. Tucker.
— Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' Prof. Partridge.
— Geographical, 8.—'Latest Explorations, Africa,' Dr. Livingstone.
Tues. Engineers, 8.—'Howes Gill Viaduct,' Mr. Cudworth.
— Zoological, 8.—'Osteology of Gallinaceous Birds,' Mr. Parker; 'Beaver, Zoological Gardens,' Mr. Bartlett; 'Human Entozoa,' Dr. Cobbold.
Wed. Society of Arts, 8.—'Utilization of Peat and Manufacture of Hydro-Carbon Oils,' Dr. Paul.
— Society of Literature, 8.
— Archaeological Association, 8.—'Tumulus, Maes-Howe, Orkney,' Mr. Pettigrew.—'Translation of Runic Inscriptions in Stone,' Rev. Principal Barclay; 'Antiquities in Roman Villa, Somersetshire,' Mr. Moore.
Thurs. Philological, 8.
— Royal, 8.
— Antiquaries, 8.

FINE ARTS

Birket Foster's Pictures of English Landscape. Engraved by the Brothers Dalziel. With Pictures in Words by Mr. Tom Taylor. (Routledge & Co.)

BETWEEN these words and drawings there is a singular fitness, due no doubt to Mr. Taylor's thorough recognition of the character of the designs to which, as he tells us, he has endeavoured to set words of apt accompaniment. Mr. B. Foster is not an artist to do more than happily suggest the simplicity of homely English landscape character. He does not, after Wilson's mistake, attempt to classicize our Gothic England; nor does he even, after Turner's glorious success, venture to insinuate a deeper feeling or tenderer pathos in his pictured themes than they actually possess. The most homely criticism is happiest in examining this artist's drawings. Here is nature, bright, hard, clear—when coloured by him, not a little like porcelain—but never pretending to more than meets the eye, or any subtle suggestion that mocks the observer's brain. The literary artist keeps himself strictly to like themes; and while pleasantly accompanying the painter with words that have almost always a musical ring in them—constantly a point, and here and there a dash of humour,—he does not wander from home, nor quit the green lanes, heaths, farm-yards, pools or sea-shores of the English land. Under many an aspect, and every effect of light, the two painters have treated their subject; and, limited as is the feeling of the draughtsman, he has never failed to render what he does with a fidelity which, if prosaic, is always agreeable.

One can hardly look at these drawings without fancying a recognition of the localities that have given the themes; hence much of their charm. They are so ordinary, and yet so faithful, in *their way*, that half the observers could name some homely corner of a lane where that cottage, shaded by the elms that grow bare in autumn—whose felled brethren lie beside them in the sun-chequered road—is built. Every farm in the southern counties has a pool like that where the cows doze in the 14th draw-

ing, which Mr. Taylor illustrates thus, giving a point, for once, beyond the theme:—

COWS IN THE POOL.

Might I choose, with Æsop's bent,
Aptest type of self-content,
It should be a herd of cows,
Who when heat forbids to browse,
And when midges sting and tease,
In dry shadow of the trees,
Seek a still and sheltered pool,
Rush-begirt, and dark and cool,
And in knee-deep bath sedate,
Flick off flies and remede;
On the fever and the fret
Of silly sheep whose hearts are set
On pasture in the sun's hot glare,
Or on the foolish flights in air
Of the swallows flashing by,
Now to stream and now to sky.
Do nothing philosophers,
Whom nor midge stings, nor gad-fly stirs;
Who in serene contempt look down
On toilers in the world's fierce day,
Or on the flighty spirits frown,
That spend in fancy's flash and play
The hours you ruminate away
In tepid water and soft clay.

In this mild way, the verses are better than the drawing in the next example, from which we borrow the best lines—the exultation of a farm lad in love with his master's daughter:—

To look at her once made me sad,
Though hopes and hearts are free,
For I am but the farmer's lad,
And the farmer's daughter she;
But of my service now she's glad,
And she's said as much to me.
Our lane runs down a pleasant mile,
Through hedge-rows close and high;
What lips may do, but talk and smile,
Who knows but she and I?
The foxglove from the brake may leap,
To whisper the bright blue-bell;
The poppy out of the corn may peep,
'Twill blush, but never tell;
If the ox-eyes saw, they'll the secret keep,
They love her face so well.

The best of Mr. Forster's drawings are No. 17, 'The Winter Piece,' a snow scene that is very chilly,—25, 'Under the Moonbeams,' a pool seen under the guardian boughs of its elm-tree margin; and kine and sheep sleeping in the light. 'The Village Churchyard,' No. 27, is characteristic of the artist's tone of feeling and system of selection and execution. 'The Ferry-Boat,' with its distance of bright lowland rainy sky, is one of the most felicitous things we have seen by him. Best of all is No. 26, 'At Sunset,' a very effective and brilliant drawing. Several of the others are tame and commonplace, without even that homely and literal character which, as we have said, renders the draughtsman's works interesting. In general, too, we notice, even more strongly than in successive years at the Exhibitions, a sameness of composition pervading these drawings which the monotony of handling does nothing to relieve. Mrs. Tom Taylor contributes two spirited and agreeable little poems to this collection, 'The Smithy,' 12, and 'At the Brook-side.' Mr. Taylor adds to his Preface, that the collection of designs should have more interest with the public as they are the last works in wood engraving likely to be produced by the artist.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The exhibition of drawings and sketches prepared by the Water-colour Society, of which we spoke last week, will open to the public on Monday next, at the Gallery of the Society, in Pall Mall East. Report speaks highly of the interest of the collection.

Prof. Donaldson, Messrs. C. Barry, G. G. Scott and P. Hardwick, four of the architects engaged in preparing designs for the Prince-Consort Memorial, have requested and received an extension of the time appointed for sending in designs, with an intimation that no further delay beyond the 1st of January next would be allowed.

A meeting has been held at Tavistock to decide upon the character of a memorial to the late Duke of Bedford. A statue was decided upon, and a committee appointed to arrange details.

Mr. Foley, who has been commissioned to execute the statue to be erected at Todmorden to commemorate the services of the late Mr. J. Feilden, M.P., in procuring an amelioration of the condition of factory operatives, is understood to have so far advanced the model that the whole work will be completed about Midsummer next. The committee appointed to look after the work have expressed a high admiration of the design, which represents the object of the memorial addressing an audience, but without declamatory action, and instead of having one hand on his hip and the other doing nothing in particular, has a characteristic novelty in its attitude, one hand being in the arm-hole of his waistcoat, the other on a volume which rests on a pedestal. The work is seven feet and a half high.

We regret to state that our information, although official, respecting the sale of M. Molin's noble group 'The Grapplers,' in the International Exhibition, for 600*l.*, is incorrect. The copy of the original work, for it was nothing more, and may be repeated any number of times, has been sold for a much less sum.

The annual display of copies made from pictures by Old Masters in the British Institution has been made, and consists of an unusually large number of copies from, we believe, a more than commonly numerous set of originals. Romney, Vandyke and Rubens supply the last with some pictures by inferior painters. Whether it be wise to put before students pictures by Murillo, even the famous 'Assumption of the Virgin,' is a thing to which the Directors do not, we think, give full attention. Murillo is not the best, but one of the very worst models for study, his merits not being those of execution, but of feeling of its kind; and execution being the only thing that should be sought for in such practice as is to be obtained here, the broad, bold, solid handling, clear tones and deft management of surface that Rubens, Vandyke, Tintoret, and above all Titian, excelled in, render them fit for the purpose; but the opaque, murky half-tints, overloaded flesh, and often bad colour, *per se*, of the Spaniard, are such as should render copying a thing out of the question. Accordingly, the best copies here are from the Vandyke 'Princess de St. Croix,' which Mr. W. Boehm has done creditably and cleverly. Miss M. A. Sharp is also fortunate therein. Of Rubens's 'Duchess of Buckingham and Children,' one or two tolerable transcripts appear. The most successful imitations come after, as we might expect, Romney's 'Head of a Boy.' Of these, we name the copies worthy of notice in order of merit:—Mrs. G. Goodwin is best, though a little out of drawing,—Miss Nugent, in water-colour, has done brightly and clearly,—Miss H. M. Bacon and Mr. T. Young in oil. Four dreadful copies after Romney's 'Mrs. Robinson' appear; a good one from a portion, the child at the glass in his picture of Lady Russell and Child, by Miss M. A. Hall, who has done best also in transcribing the Countess of Warwick and Children.

Mr. Mitchell publishes a portrait of the Prince Consort, full length, and leaning against a column, engraved by Mr. Hall from a coloured drawing by Mr. Corbould—"made at Osborne in the early part of the present year," says a communication from the publishers. We do not recognize in this either the manly intelligence or the gentlemanly dignity of the deceased Prince; indeed, it is one of the least characteristic, though one of the prettiest, portraits we have seen amongst the immense number that have appeared. The whole work is somewhat in the old-fashioned Annual style, flimsy and hard.

The fifth and concluding part of the Catalogue of the Loan Collection at the South Kensington Museum has been published. It contains the Sections of Illuminations and Illuminated MSS., with an Introduction by Mr. R. R. Holmes, of the British Museum; Bookbindings, by the Rev. J. Beck; Rings, by Mr. E. Waterton, whose Introductory Essay is a valuable compendium of the history of the subject, curious as that is; Jewelry, Personal Ornaments and Gems, by Mr. Cheffers; Clocks and Watches, by the same,—as also is the section on Vases and other objects in Rock Crystal,

Sardonyx, &c.; Historical Relics, by the Rev. J. Beck; Miscellaneous Objects, by Mr. R. H. S. Smith and the Rev. J. Beck; with Addenda to all the classes. Probably this section of the Catalogue specifies a greater number of interesting objects than did its predecessors. For the convenience of those who desire to see the most important items it designates, we select a few. Illuminations: No. 6,800, the Book of Mulcoory, fifteenth century, Irish, interesting to those who receive the theory that English illuminating is derived from that of Ireland, a late specimen of the national style,—6,801, Evangelium S. Johannis, in uncial character, said to have been found in the tomb of St. Cuthbert in 1105, and probably the work of that prelate,—6,802, the Gospels of St. Chad, Anglo-Hibernian, containing entries in Latin, Anglo-Saxon and the ancient British languages, of much greater antiquity than any other relic,—6,803, Benedictinal of St. Ethelwold, c. 963, with thirty miniatures,—6,804, Life of St. Cuthbert, c. 1210,—6,805, Homilies of St. Gregory on Ezekiel, c. 1186,—6,806, Psalter, containing a map similar to that preserved in Hereford Cathedral, c. 1253,—6,808, The Louthel Psalter,—6,809, MS. with miniatures, remarkably well designed and executed, c. 1320,—6,814, The Red Book of Lynn,—6,817, The Wardrobe List of the Earl of Leicester at Kenilworth, 1583,—6,824, Horæ B. V. M., very delicate borders, fifteenth century,—6,833, Horæ, Hispano-Belgic, fifteenth century,—6,834, another, belonged to Lord Hastings, beheaded by Richard the Third, 1483, with a rhyming dedication by Queen Mary the First,—6,857, MS., entirely filled with beautifully designed subjects, fourteenth century. A series of fine Italian works, 6,891, 93, 94, 96, 98, 99, 6,908, 9,—6,925, a collection of portraits by Janet. The collection of Bookbindings is superb, comprising specimens of almost all styles: French, by Padeloup, Dusséuil, Le Gascon, Le Petit Bernard, &c.; Italian and Venetian—of the last especially, see 6,991 and 7,020: many specimens of Grolier works of great interest. Of the Rings, Mr. Waterton's collection is chronological, beginning with those of ancient Egypt, continued through the wondrous treasures of the Etruscan tombs; works of the Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Merovingians, Anglo-Saxons, Popes, with a score of articles having general associations, as the rings of Rienzi (?), William of Wykeham, Bishop Gardiner, Henry of Blois, &c. Among the Historical Relics are (7,753) the silver spoon, books and gloves of Henry the Sixth, given, after Hexham, to Sir R. Pudsey,—7,754, the pen-case of the same king,—7,755, the pendent jewel called the "George" of Sir T. Moore, and (7,756) his skull-cap, of cambric embroidered with silver, probably by Margaret Roper,—(7,760) Queen Elizabeth's Prayer-book, her gloves (7,762) left in the Bodleian Library,—(7,764) Mary Stuart's table,—(7,765) her rosary and crucifix,—7,766, a crucifix belonging to the same, used during what its owner, Lord Herries, with characteristic fidelity, styles her "iniquitous imprisonment at Fotheringay,"—7,767, the grace-cup of Thomas a Becket, given by Catherine of Aragon to Sir E. Howard,—7,770, The bed-side clock of Charles the First, given to Mr. Herbert on his way to execution,—7,772, Oliver Cromwell's watch,—7,773, a richly-wrought reliquary, said to have belonged to Catherine of Braganza, c. 1520.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, Covent Garden, under the management of Miss Louisa Fyde and Mr. W. Harrison, Sole Lessee.—Brilliant success of Wallace and Planché's New Opera, LOVE'S TRIUMPH, which will be repeated, with the original cast, every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday until further notice. On Wednesday, November 26, Balfie's Grand Opera, SATANELLA. On Friday, 28th, an Opera.

Commence at Eight. Private Boxes, from 10*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 4*s.*; Orchestra Stalls, 10*s.*; Dress Circle, 5*s.*; Upper Boxes, 4*s.*; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3*s.*; Pit, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Amphitheatre, 1*s.*—The Box Office open daily from Ten till Five. No charge for Booking, or Fees to Box-keepers.

MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Herr Joachim's last appearance but two, on MONDAY EVENING, November 24, when Beethoven's Celebrated Septet for Wind and Stringed Instruments will be performed. Executed by M. M. Joachim, Lindsay Sloper, Piffli, Lazarus, C. Harter, E. Kies, H. Webb, Hutchins, Severn. Vocalists, Miss Roden and Mr. Santley. Conductor, Mr. Benedict. Sofa Stalls, 5*s.*; Balcony, 3*s.*; Admission 1*s.*

Publications of the Bach Society. Eleventh year.—Vocal Chamber Music. (Leipzig.)

THE eleventh annual issue of the works of Sebastian Bach, by the Leipzig Society, contains—as has been already mentioned in this journal—a veritable curiosity, in the chamber-music (as it is styled) of the indefatigable Cantor. Here are disinterred five Cantatas. Two of these, 'Phœbus and Pan' (which is comic) and 'Æolus,' are laid out on an ample scale, with choruses, a small orchestra, and containing more than one character;—the others are monologues; one of which, for a bass voice, is to Italian text, and has a rich *obligato* accompaniment for *cembalo*. More interesting specimens could not be found of the master's versatility, individuality and humour; and, what is more, of his want of characteristic propriety, so singularly alternated with a wonderful dramatic subtlety and truth. Here will be seen the same disregard of expression which allowed Bach to load some of the most serious solo airs in his 'Passions-Musik' with elaborate *obligato* accompaniments, thereby rendering the verse a show-duet for two instruments,—which permitted him to perpetrate that long *pastorale* for a bass voice which interrupts the stupendous 'Credo' of his Mass in B minor. But here, too, we have touches, and from a giant's hand, of that descriptive force and pertinence which make some of the choruses and recitatives in that 'Passions-Musik' so awful, so deeply moving,—and which inspired the unparagoned 'Crucifixus,' in the Catholic service just cited. In the first Cantata, *Phœbus*, a bass, sings a love-song, which is as dreary as if it had been written for the tender *Pyramus* in the 'Midsummer Night's Dream.' *Æolus*, a tenor, has another ditty, no less lack-a-daisically funereal, and hampered by a stiff imitative accompaniment. *Pan* is fitted out in a more jolly fashion, with a rusticity as rough as that of Handel's *Polypheme*, but more closely descending towards burlesque farce,—as, for instance, when, in a division on the word "wackelt," the sylvan Deity treats the ear to no "sweet pipings," but sings "wack-ack-ack-ack-elt," &c. There is a touch of similar broad fun in the leap given to the violins, accompanying an air by *Midas*, where the asinine ears are spoken of. It is impossible to meet this without speculating on the possibility of its having been known to Mendelssohn, that most devout of Bach-worshippers,—and asking how far a well-known abrupt phrase (supposed to be devoted to *Bottom*) in his Shakespearian overture was merely a coincidence. The final movement, a chorus in six parts, each led by a principal singer, is based on a phase of melody the elegance and freshness of which are astonishing,—a delightful close to an opera, not even excluding the idea of dance as possible. The other Cantatas contain examples of experimental fancy not less singular, as, for instance, an instrumental *Gavotte*, where the voice is brought modestly in to sing the second part.—The last Cantata, 'Æolus,' opens with something more pompous and richly wrought,—a chorus of Winds, full of spirit and contrivance. There is here, also, a noticeable air of parade for *Æolus* (a bass), which may pair off with songs by Handel of similar quality; and a fine chorus with what may be called, for brevity's sake, a *musette* effect, as persistent as if Rameau had been the writer. To those with whom desire to learn and regard are more than affectation, this volume of secular music may be warmly commended, as full of matter calculated to increase their appreciation of the variety and fecundity of brave old Bach,—as throughout instructive to study;—and no small portion of which must be pleasant to hear, were it conscientiously executed.

MUSIC IN LEIPZIG.

Leipzig, November, 1862.

As some compensation for the miserable street music which adds to the unpleasantness of the Leipzig Fairs, the Michaelmas Fair unlocks the doors of the Gewandhaus, and ushers in our musical season. Limited as I am for space, I must confine my notices to the new or revived compositions that may be produced, and to the performances of those artists who are comparatively new to the public. A "Concert Overture," by Rubinstein, was per-

formed at the Third Concert. This work shows more regularity of form, but less richness of fancy, than usually characterizes Herr Rubinstein's compositions. The opening *andante* promises well, but is too long; the other subjects are in themselves good, but are disappointingly treated: the instrumentation, too, is tame, compared with the composer's usual manner.—The following performers deserve mention:—Fräulein Sara Magnus, of Berlin, who played Chopin's F minor Concerto for the piano, a pleasant player, with a clear, pearly touch, good tone and a brilliant execution. Herr Isidor Seiss, a Professor of the Cologne Conservatory, played Weber's Concerto, in E flat. M. Vieuxtemps, in addition to one of his Concertos, performed a new composition, an Introduction, Ballade and Polonaise: the ideas have hardly nerve enough in them for the length to which they are spun out. Fräulein Wilhelmine Neruda (I believe a Styrian lady) astonished us by a masterly performance of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. In tone, style and execution she was alike admirable; her rendering of the Concerto was by no means the less interesting for the feminine reading she gave it. Fräulein Friese, already mentioned in the *Athenæum*, another young lady violinist, I shall refer to presently. In Fräulein Orwilt, also a Styrian lady, we have at last found a singer to whom it is an unmixed pleasure to listen. She is a good pupil of Madame Viardot Garcia. Though her voice is not of great volume, the quality of it is charming. She has sung airs by Handel, Gluck (one which I had not before heard, from his opera, 'Lucio Vero'), Mozart, Beethoven and Rossini, and "Lieder" by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Schumann.

A concert has been given by the youthful twin-sisters Franziska and Ottilie Friese, who have just quitted the Conservatory. The first is a violinist of no ordinary promise. She played the first movement of Beethoven's Violin Concerto, the first violin part of Beethoven's B flat Quartett (No. 6), and, with her sister, Schubert's Rondo in B minor, in one of the Gewandhaus concerts; she also played Herr David's Variations on a Russian Theme, than which, of their kind, the violinist has few more grateful pieces. She is gifted with real musical feeling, united with sound technical capabilities and clear and spirited execution. Her sister Ottilie played Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Concerto in D minor, Moscheles' 'Kindermärchen' and 'Tanz,' and the piano part of Schubert's Rondo. She, too, is of much promise.

The Brothers Müller, of Meiningen, have given two Quartett Concerts. Their rendering of the *andante* in Haydn's 'Kaiser' Quartett was especially masterly; but still I feel that, on the whole, too much is sacrificed by them to attain perfection in *ensemble*-playing. You will probably have an opportunity of hearing the Herren Müller, for they are now on a concert-tour which, I believe, will extend to England. Two songs by Herr Karl Müller, the leader of the Quartett, were sung. One is a 'Hymn to the Virgin,' the other 'Jephtha's Sacrifice.' Both are wearily unmelodious.

Another concert which must not be passed over was that given by Herr Wendelin Weissheimer; in it Herr Wagner made his first appearance since his permission to return to Saxony; he conducted the prelude to his last-written opera, 'Die Meistersinger zu Nürnberg.' There is clever work in this composition, and it has some broad, sonorous effects; but as a whole, it is exceedingly ugly. His 'Tannhäuser' Overture closed the concert. Herr von Bülow played a Concerto for the Pianoforte by Liszt (No. 2 in A major). This work is the most uncouth of all that I have heard by its composer, and is not even relieved by those sonorous orchestral combinations with which, when he will, Dr. Liszt can for the time carry away his hearers. The rest of the Concert consisted of compositions by Herr Weissheimer—viz., 'Das Grab im Busento,' for bass solo, male chorus and orchestra; 'Ritter Toggenburg,' a symphony for grand orchestra, in five parts; 'Trocknet nicht, Thäranen der ewigen Liebe'; a 'Frühlingslied,' translated from the Persian; and 'O lieb' so lang' du lieben kannst,' a cantata. The industry which has produced so much demands a respectful hearing. It has been my misfortune during a residence here of some years to

hear not a little bad music. Last year, while listening to Herr Dräseke's compositions, I thought the lowest depths had been attained; but Herr Weissheimer has taught me that there is still a lower. I had not thought it possible that any amount of self-delusion could have existed sufficient to lay works of such grim deformity before the public. They possess neither intelligible melody nor rhythm, and are made more repulsive by a blatant, awkward instrumentation.

The "Euterpe" has commenced its season with a new Kapelmeister, Herr Blassmann, formerly of Dresden, whom I know to be a good pianist, and who is said to be a good director.

Two interesting performances have been given in the Conservatory. The first was on the 13th of October, the day on which the venerable Dr. Hauptmann celebrated his seventieth birthday, and the fiftieth year of independent working as a musician of the most sterling qualities. As a professor, he has proved himself invaluable. The second was on the 4th of November, and commemorated the sad day which deprived the institution of Mendelssohn, its founder and watchful supporter. Especially commendable were the performances of Miss Emily Matthews, of London, and Fräulein Böhme, of Dresden, the former in the first and second, the latter in the third and fourth, movements of Mendelssohn's c minor Trio, and of Mr. Edward Dannreuther, already mentioned by you, in the *Variations Sérielles*, Op. 54.

P.S. To make amends for the failure to attract of 'Der Fliegende Holländer,' our theatrical management is about to reproduce the 'Faust' of M. Gounod.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—Messrs. Ashdown & Parry have just published a new edition of M. Stephen Heller's 'Studies,' in all fifteen books. This, moreover, is what it professes to be—a work revised and, in places, re-written by its author. M. Heller has amplified and extended some of the Studies, and introduced entirely new matter, to what extent we will not attempt to specify. The collection, as it stands, is unique in modern music—one not to be studied without profit, and pleasure to boot. No tremendous difficulty of any kind is attempted, and the student who wishes to command the exaggerations of the modern florid school must be referred to such writers as M.M. Henselt and Thalberg, and Dr. Liszt. Yet, no one can play M. Heller's more arduous Studies without having that mastery over the instrument which enables him to render as well as relish the best classical authors. Again, the wealth of real musical idea contained in these fifteen books is something rare and precious. Besides being useful, these Studies are beautiful. They may rank, in short, with Cramer's Studies—with those by Prof. Moscheles,—widely differing from both; and it may be said, without strain of the truth, that there is no living composer who could produce a volume comparable to this. A more interesting and permanently attractive Christmas present could hardly be found for musician, be he old or young.

This day week, an overture by M. Rubinstein was performed at the *Crystal Palace* Concert. This, like most of its composer's works, continually suggests what great things he could do, were he more careful in the choice of his themes and in their elaboration. The introduction is one promising nothing; passages of the *allegro*, however, are wrought with considerable power; and the close, which is brilliant, commanded great applause. At this concert, too, not Mr. Halle as announced, but Herr Joachim played. The last performances of this admirable artist are drawing on, with nightly increase, if that be possible, of his popularity. His execution of the fugues of Bach for violin solo is among the most memorable things of the year. The extraordinary difficulty of this noble old music entirely disappears in Herr Joachim's hands. It is admirable, too, to observe the elegance and grace with which he can invest forms not altogether guiltless of dryness. We can call to mind nothing of a corresponding excellence on the violin. While adverting to last Monday's *Popular Concert*, mention must be made of the singing of Beethoven's

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"*Lieder-kries*," by Mr. Sims Reeves, who was in his best voice.

The report which has this week appeared in the *Gazette Musicale* of Signor Verdi's new opera, '*La Forza del Destino*,' just produced at St. Petersburg, is not very encouraging. The story is apparently violently melo-dramatic; its gloom relieved by passages of broad comedy,—the first time, we believe, that the composer has attempted mirth in music. The opera does not contain a solitary concerted piece (choruses, of course, excepted) of larger proportions than a duett. The principal singers were Mesdames Barbot and Nantier-Didier, Signors Tamberlik and De' Bassini. They were all repeatedly called for, and the *maestro*, who had superintended the production of his opera, more times than can be counted.

The revival of '*Così fan tutte*,' at the Italian Opera House in Paris, has been as unsuccessful as usual. Even Mozart's lovely music (and there is nothing lovelier by Mozart than the concerted pieces which adorn the first act) cannot bribe us to endure the dull and preposterous folly of the story. It is played in some German theatres (if we mistake not, in Stuttgart) with an amended *libretto*. Would it not be well to inquire for this? As the opera stands, thus unaided, it is intolerable.—Mdlle. Patti's *début* has taken place this week. The Correspondent of the *Morning Post* states that she was warmly received and enthusiastically supported by a large party of English and American friends; but thinks it questionable whether her Parisian will equal her London popularity.

A serious accident has befallen Mdlle. Emma Livry, while rehearsing the part of *Fenella* in '*La Muette*.' Her dress took fire at the footlights, and the injuries received, it is feared, are considerable. There should be surely something devised to avert this peril.

There has been English Opera at Sadler's Wells Theatre, with Mr. Henry Haigh as tenor. The rest of the company are less known to fame. '*Maritana*,' and '*Il Trovatore*' have been announced.

M. Meyer Lutz has finished a cantata, with the title of '*Herne the Hunter*.'

A four-act opera, by Prince Poniatowski, says the *Gazette Musicale*, will be given ere long at the Théâtre Lyrique.

'*Le Precauzioni*,' a comic opera by Signor Petrella, has succeeded at the Theatre Carlo Felice at Genoa.

Dr. Liszt is expected to arrive shortly in Paris; it is said, with the intention of giving concerts there.

"At last," writes a Correspondent from Naples, "San Carlo has formed its company, and will receive this evening, November the 10th. What prospects there are of amusement it is difficult to say. The *prime donne* are Signoras Julienne Dejean, Sarcolla di Bujanov, Stefanina Ney (*contralto*), and Emilia Rossi. The *tenors* are Signors Eutrino Armandi and Felice Pozzo. The *baritones* and *basses* are Signors Giovanni Morly, Giuseppe Cima, Luigi Brignole, Prospero Derivis, and Marco Arati. Three operas new to Naples and three new ballets are presented to the subscribers, and we are to have three performances weekly, or not fewer than three, the right being retained of substituting for one of the three any other opera of merit, not having been performed for a long time in Naples. The opera promised this evening is the '*Ballo in Maschera*,' and the ballet, '*I Bianchi e Neri*,' and if public expectation is not great, our Neapolitans are at least rejoiced at having some place where they can kill time."—A second communication dated the 11th, informs us that the performance of the opera was unsatisfactory, and received with great displeasure. Madame Sarcolla (whose good looks exempted her somewhat from condemnation) and Madame Julienne Dejean have both, it may be recollected, appeared in London, without being able to keep their places here. Neither lady is Italian; neither is Signor Armandi, a tenor, also in no favourable esteem among us. Poor Naples!

A memorial tablet has been placed on the front of the house in Coburg where Madame Schröder-Devrient died.

In a new four-act play, by M. Sardon, 'Les

Ganaches,' just produced at the Théâtre Gymnase, at Paris, Mdlle. Victoria is said to have distinguished herself remarkably. She is spoken of by M. Janin as the Actress of Paris—the one successor to Madame Rose-Chéri.

MISCELLANEA

James Macfarlan.—A Correspondent sends us the following:—"Nations have their poets, and so have small communities; and the poets of each class are too often compelled (in the words of *Pamphlet*, in '*Love and a Bottle*') "to write themselves into a consumption before they gain reputation." To flutter away a butterfly life in the Poet's Corner of a provincial newspaper, and to have in prospect the epigrammatic epitaph of a small editor, is the destiny of the humble muse; but it now and then happens that a local rhymester passes away unnoticed, less from deficiency of mental power than from the impossibility of comparing his power with that of less restricted intellects. To James Macfarlan, a young writer famous in Glasgow and the surrounding district, and who has just died in indigence, belonged an amount of spontaneous genius which, under more favourable circumstances, might have produced verses of not ephemeral worth. The son of an itinerant pedlar, and without education or intelligent companionship, Macfarlan managed to write such lyrics as the following:—

PARTING DAY.

The sunset burns, the hamlet spire
Gleams grandly, sheathed in evening fire,

The river rolleth red.

The flowers are drenched in floating haze,
The churchyard brightens, and old days

Seem smiling on the dead.

From pendent boughs, like drops of gold,
The peaches hang; the mansion old,

From out its nest of green,

Looks joyful through its golden eyes
Back on the sunset-burnished skies

A smile o' or all the scene.

The running child, whose wavy hair
Takes from the sunset's level glare

A purer, brighter light,

Rolls on the grass; the evening star
Above yon streak of cloudy bar

Hangs on Day's purple fringe.

Where latest sunshine slanting falls,
Above the ivied orchard walls,

The tall tree-shadows lean,

In waving lines of shade, that nod
Like dusky streams across the road

With banks of light between.

The streams are gilt, the towering vane
Stands burnished; and the cottage pane

Seems melting in the sun;

The last lark wavers down the sky;
The husky crow slides careless by,

The golden day is done.

The above is not first-class, and it is one of the poorest pieces produced by its author; but it is the only piece which I can lay hands on in time to procure an early insertion of these lines, and it is at least vastly superior to the ordinary contributions to Poet's Corner. Among the '*City Poems*' and the '*Lyrics of Life*' (two small volumes published some years ago), and among numerous contributions to *All the Year Round*, there are many really fine poems,—extraordinarily fine as emanating from the mind of a man who for many years trudged about as a common pedlar, whose days were spent in hardship and poverty, and who was destined to die, when only thirty years of age, a pauper. On the causes of Macfarlan's misfortunes, apart from the serious misfortunes of a low birth and a wretched education, it would be tedious to dwell; but it has now become necessary to point out the fact that his wife and child are without a penny, and that they have a certain claim on the benevolence of all men and women who love letters. I am sorry that this brief obituary resolves itself into an appeal to private sympathy. The local poet, however, being useful in his way, and the humble kinsman of the poet of a nation, deserves some little kindly recognition. Some few of your readers will be satisfied with the fact that Mr. Charles Dickens believed in Mr. Macfarlan and assisted him most cheerfully; and these few may regard favourably the subscription, at present being raised in Glasgow, for the benefit of widow and child.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. T.—S. W.—J. K.—W. L.—E. M. L.—H. L. H.—received.

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